

CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale - Kosovo
Annual Report 2023

Our Mission

CONCORDIA is an international, independent, non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting children, young people, and families in need, towards a more independent and responsible life.

We go where the need is the greatest. And where others do not go.



HEART CONNECTION

We connect from heart to heart



COMMITMENT

People can trust our commitment.



COURAGE

We are determined to go where the need is greatest.



CHANCES

We give hope by increasing chances.





Dear friends,

"Human dignity is inviolable" - this concept is at the heart of everything we do and is what guides our daily work at CONCORDIA every year.

This dignity is violated when children are born into the world without being given the chance of fulfill their potential due to the vicious circle of inter-generational poverty that still exists in parts of Europe today.

We have been trying to break this vicious circle individually and systemically for 32 years. In 2023, we expanded our sphere of influence and reached total of 27,000 children, young people, and adults in need. These figures reflect our commitment and determination to preserve and promote the dignity of everyone under our care.

The terrible war in Ukraine reached new heights last year. As a result we supported over 8000 refugees: in Austria, Romania and Bulgaria, we focused on social integration. In Moldova, (where over 100,000 people found refuge in 2023), many commute depending on the intensity of the shelling in their region, and most children continue to receive online lessons from their Ukrainian teachers. As long as the war continues, we will stand by these people.

The broader CONCORDIA community has continued to grow and now includes 120,000 people who regularly support us, mainly from the DACH region, but also in our programme countries. We have entered into strategic partnerships with international organisations that share our mission. To date we have eleven "proud partnerships" with companies who enable us to continue our work uninterrupted and with collaborative power.

The fight for a dignified life is at the centre of our mission. This is supported by 550 dedicated employees and over 450 volunteers in seven countries, as well as the ever-growing CONCORDIA community, who enable children to spread their wings. Thank you to everyone who contributed in 2023.

With best regards,

P. Markus Inama SJ
Pater Markus Inama SJ
Member of the board

Ulla Konrad
Ulla Konrad
Member of the board

Bernhard Drumel
Bernhard Drumel
Member of the board

Cornelia Burtscher
Cornelia Burtscher
Member of the Board

Thomas Birtel
Thomas Birtel
Chairman of the board



Dear children, colleagues and partners,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to read our third annual report, the report for 2023. You will be pleased to learn about the tireless efforts of CONCORDIA in Kosovo, where our commitment and heartfelt connections have provided better life opportunities and the courage to break the cycle of poverty for many underprivileged children and their families.

In 2023, 153 children and youth benefited daily from educational support and psychosocial services at the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre in Prizren. Overall, a total of 757 individuals received tailored support based on their needs and the capabilities of our center. These accomplishments were made possible through the dedication of the CONCORDIA team, the generous support of our donors, the trust of central and local authorities, and valuable collaborations with other NGOs.

Our high-quality work has been recognized with a license as a community-based Learning Centre from the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, and by our membership in the Kosovar Coalition of NGOs for Child Protection (KOMF). These achievements have strengthened our resolve and motivation to continue and expand our support throughout the country.

We thank you all and count on your continued support!

**Mirela Lavric
Executive Director**

Country Statistics

Population:
1.587 MILION (2024)

Wages:
521 € GROSS (2023)

Unemployment:
Q1: 16.6% - (2023)

Inflation:
Rate in Kosovo
increased by: 2.8 %
in June 2023,
over the same month
of the previous year.



CONCORDIA Kosovo Statistics

KOSOVO			Child care	Community-based interventions	Education and professional training	Employment and social business	Empowerment
PROJECT NAME	PLACE	SINCE					
CONCORDIA Tranzit Day Centre/Learning Centre	Prizren	2021		641	120		
Mobile team - outreach work in the Municipality of Prizren	Prizren	2022		109			
Vocational Counselling	Prizren	2022			10	6	
Women's Support Group	Prizren	2022					10
Parent's school	Prizren	2022					10
Music classes	Prizren	2021			67		
Early childhood education	Prizren	2021		7	26		
			0	757	223	6	20
Head counts - unique beneficiaries			916				
Double count - this applies to programme participants who use more than one CONCORDIA service.							

CONCORDIA Tranzit Day Centre/Learning Centre:

- 641 parents and other family members living under the same roof of the children coming into the Centre daily (food packages, health support, parent's meetings, social counselling, home visits);
- 120 Headcount - Children and youngsters coming daily in the Tranzit Centre (homework, school supplies, clothes, leisure, psychological counselling, vocational counselling, health support etc).

Mobile team - outreach work in the Municipality of Prizren:

- 109 Total number of individuals of the 10 families supported by the mobile team.

Vocational Counselling:

- 10 Children taking part in the monthly modules, for 12 modules;
- 6 Youth and young adults registered as job seekers/vocational classes/employed.

Women's Support Group:

- 10 Women taking part on the monthly modules for 12 modules.

Parent's school:

- 10 Parents taking part in the monthly modules for 12 modules.

Music Classes:

67 Children and youth registered in music classes - 49 in music instruments, 18 in choir 4 of them coming only for music classes, the rest being participants in the Tranzit Day Centre.

Early childhood education:

7 Nursery - more care than education - daily in Tranzit Centre;
26 Pre-school - coming daily in Tranzit Centre.



Education as a key Intervention

The third year of CONCORDIA in Kosovo can be, on short, described as “growth and further professionalization” of the support provided to the most vulnerable children, youngsters and families in the Municipality of Prizren.

The new configuration of the Tranzit Centre is supported also by the Learning Centre license obtained in April 2023, after the evaluation of the application by the commission from the Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI).

Our main projects

While the new interventions started last year (Parent's School, Mobile Team, Vocational Counseling, Women Support Group) grew and developed as projects, we configured the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre as a program with 7 projects under it:

- CONCORDIA Tranzit Day Centre/
Learning Centre
- Mobile team - outreach work in the
Municipality of Prizren;
- Vocational Counselling;
- Women's Support Group;
- Parent's school;
- Music classes;
- Early childhood education.





Education support

Learning Centre

The quality of the educational support provided by CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre has been recognized by Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (MESTI) by granting the license of community-based Learning Centre, in April 2023, in line with the provision of the Administrative Instruction 19/2018.

As Learning Centre, children who are disadvantaged and suffer from the consequences of socioeconomic. Exclusion are prepared for enrolment, providing extra help with their schoolwork and offering recreational and other educational activities contributing to discourage school dropouts. CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre provides all didactic teaching materials free of charge, along with bags, clothes, and shoes for children. We also offer warm meal every day for all children attending our Learning Centre. Additionally, parents and families of are supported by providing food and hygiene packages, according to our possibilities, as well as psychological and health services.

Through these services, our aim is to improve school attendance and support academic achievement. These services are provided by a dedicated team of teachers, educators, and volunteers who assist children with their educational needs. Additionally, other services are offered by psychologists, social workers and nurses.

- 80 children to receive educational support at the Tranzit Learning Center;
- In December 2023, 91 children were registered and participated in daily activities;
- 20 children were registered in preschool and participated in daily activities; 11 preschool children have been assessed and enrolled in first grade at school, one (1) of them enrolled at Loyola Primary School (2023/2024);
- 94% of students to pass the school and only one (1) student repeated the school year.



Early Childhood Education

By obtaining the Learning Centre license, starting September 2023 the educational support provided to the smallest children has been recognized officially as preschool education. Thus, a group of 22 children 5 to 6 y.o. started their specific preschool education according to the national curricula, with the support of a preschool teacher and an assistant.

Besides the children from the preschool group, 6 smaller children (3 to 5 y.o.) were supported on daily basis in the nursery group.

The daily program for early childhood education is from 8.30 to 15.00. The smallest ones are taking a nap after eating lunch. The activities are diversified, creative and funny on daily basis, while children are learning.

Psychological Counselling

Following the psychological assessment, the psychologist provides individual and/or group sessions to children and youth targeting their emotional well-being.

In September, all preschool children were assessed based on the curriculum, which includes Language and Communication, Mathematics, Life and Work, Natural Sciences, Society and Environment, Art, and Physical Education and Health.

Besides these, evaluation sessions and stimulation sessions are held for the better well-being of the children, including weekly art therapy sessions where children learn to focus their attention on creative activities while exercising good behavior and developing various abilities. These sessions help children express themselves more freely, improve their mental health, and enhance interpersonal relationships.

According to the psychiatrist's recommendation, 9.4% (12) of the children have a PIA (individual assistance plan at school), but the schools do not have the opportunity to provide supplementary teachers.

Additionally, 40% of the children in Tranzit have been diagnosed with attention deficit by the Psychologist.

85% of children have good emotional wellbeing; 15% have poor wellbeing (89 children 4- 19 y.o. evaluated in October 2023).

Speech therapies were organized for 3 children with the support of the PEMA NGO.



Psychological support:

- ▶ 432 individual sessions;
- ▶ 70 individual meetings with parents;
- ▶ 23 psychiatric/neurological evaluations;
- ▶ Group sessions were held twice a week;
- ▶ Assessment of the emotional well-being of each child every 6 months.



12 psychological group sessions for young people have been organized in Partnership with DIAKONIE Prizren (Psychosocial Center for Trauma Therapy) .

Social Counselling

The communities in the municipality of Prizren have an increased awareness of children's rights, and children and young people at risk turn to CONCORDIA for assistance and counselling.

A professional multidisciplinary team strengthens the local social service system in the municipality of Prizren.

Families were supported to obtain their social rights like disability allowance and support for their children, even registration of their children in the civil registry, or with the application for different subsidies.

Social support:

- 59 out of 60 families with whom CONCORDIA has Service Contracts were “very satisfied” with the services they received in Tranzit Centre (Internal Satisfaction Survey, December 2023).
- 97.9 % children and young people are very satisfied with the activities in the Tranzit Centre.



252 family packages containing food and hygienic products have been distributed to the programme participants (families).

5 families with the new born, received monthly baby packages.



Health Support and Health Education

Health support proved to be a big need for children and their families, considering the poor medical system in the country, without the coverage of health insurance, as well as limited resources of the parents. The expected impact on children, after providing educational, emotional and health services, is to empower them into emotionally stable, socially competent and physically healthy individuals.

The health well-being is measured using an internally developed instrument comprising 10 items; 127 children aged 2 to 18 y.o. were assessed and the results are the following:

- 60,6% (77 children) have good health and wellbeing;
- 39,4% (50 children) have at least one health problem or lack of hygiene;
- 24,4% (31) are under supervision concerning body and hair hygiene (they are taking showers in the Centre);
- 4,7% (6) are under dentist treatment;
- 9,4% (12) are under psychiatrist supervision, getting psychological sessions in Tranzit, and recommended medication;
- For one child we organised genetic checks to determine if she has Down syndrome;
- For 3 children we organised speech therapy;
- 1 child is under supervision with dioptrics;
- 1 child has scoliosis.
- 80% (of 65 children) improved health and emotional well-being.



Two (2) vaccination campaigns have been organized in partnership with the Balkan Sunflowers NGO.

- 447: a total number of the offered health support in the Tranzit Centre during 2023;
- 137: visits to medical doctors;
- 132: purchased prescriptions.

Nutrition support:

- 10, 825: Snacks/breakfast;
- 18, 675: Food portions.

For 7 women the nurse facilitated to conduct mammography which was the first time for all of them.

Health is wealth



Mobile Team

The Mobile Team, consisting of dedicated professionals such as social workers, nurse, and psychologist, tirelessly travels on average twice a week to support at-risk families in Prizren and surrounding villages. Their efforts include home visits, assistance with specialized medical care, ensuring social rights and benefits, and registering children for school.

The team currently supports 10 families: 5 from Pirana village, 2 from Zhur village, and 3 from other neighborhoods of Prizren. Each family is typically visited once a week, resulting in a total of 94 family visits. The Mobile Team also provides direct assistance including food, sanitary and hygiene products, and firewood to identified families, from which only 5 families received firewood, and all 10 families received food and hygienic packages.

At the end of the year, the team evaluated the families and decided to terminate the contracts of two families whose issues have been resolved, making way for new families to be taken on in January. The team has also referred four child labor cases to the Centre for Social Work. These cases were investigated by the team and resulted in the children returning to school and the Tranzit Centre after their parents received counseling.

The Mobile Team also provides essential services such as transportation to physiotherapy sessions, delivering school supplies, and transportation for music classes at Tranzit Centre.

Additionally, they offer vocational counseling for older children and distribute food and hygiene packages. Throughout the year, the Mobile Team conducted 271 individual family counseling sessions and 120 family visits.



Three staff licensed at professional level for Social Services.



**A Family's Struggle
and Strength**



In the Municipality of Prizren, the family of Mejreme G. embodies both the harsh realities of economic hardship and the unwavering strength of the human spirit. She is a widow for the past ten years that has faced unimaginable challenges raising her five children in a small, poorly house.

The family's living conditions are dire, with inadequate space and poor sanitation, yet Mejreme has persevered through sheer determination.

Mejreme suffers from chronic health issues, adding another layer of difficulty to her daily life. Despite her own struggles, she has managed to keep her family together and provide as best as she can.

Her eldest son, Gjelbrim, now 25, is married to Suzana M. and has a two-year-old daughter, Sejdina, who has been battling brain paralysis since birth.

Gjelbrim works seasonally, cutting wood during the harsh winters, but his earnings are barely enough to meet the family's needs.



Leutrim, 22, works in construction, while Hasan, 20, remains unemployed. Neither of the two brothers had the opportunity to attend school.

Valton, the 15-year-old, dropped out of school after the third grade. Amid these adversities, Edisona, the youngest at 12 years old, shines as a beacon of hope. She is a diligent student in the seventh grade and has recently started guitar lessons at the Tranzit Centre, demonstrating her dedication to learning and self-improvement.

The family does not receive any social benefits, except for the modest disability pension granted to little Sejdina, thanks to the support of CONCORDIA. This pension, will continue for the rest of her life, providing a small but crucial lifeline.

As a CONCORDIA Mobile Team, we are committed to supporting Mejreme and her family.

We provide health support and transportation for Sejdina's physiotherapy sessions, school materials for Edisona, and transportation for her music classes at Tranzit.

Additionally, we supply the family with food and hygiene packages and offer vocational counseling for the older boys.

Despite their overwhelming challenges, Mejreme and her children continue to face each day with resilience and hope. Their story is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the profound impact of community support.

Through our continued efforts, we aim to help Mejreme's family not just survive, but thrive, bringing them closer to a future filled with possibilities and brighter opportunities.



Women's Support Group

In January 2023, a new Women's Support Group, has been created, a group of 10 women that will be leaded by the new psychologist.

The 10 women of WSG went through twelve (12) modules during the year, one module per month, covering diverse topics such as personal understanding and emotional exploration, financial education, critical thinking development, communication, creativity, open-mindedness, women rights. etc.

At the end of the year, the participants were rewarded with attendance certificates and symbolic presents.





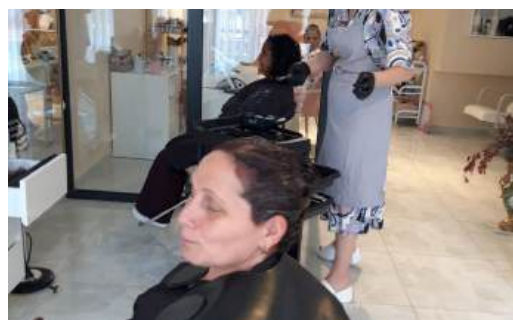
Also, one of the monthly meetings was with focus on prejudices and personal spaces, aspects related to the domestic violence with the occasion of 16 days of activism against violence towards women and girls. During 2023, two excursions have been organised with the parents and the different environments and relaxation made them be very receptive with the activities proposed by the psychologist and the teacher of Tranzit.

On June 27, the women/mothers travelled to Pristina and visited the beauty salon of Miss Albania 2022. The subject was: **"Desires are what guide us in our profession"**! Except that Ms. Elona Ndrecaj (Miss Albania 2022) was a wonderful host, the whole group of women had the pleasure of having different beauty treatments, free of charge.



An excursion has been organised on May 30, and the topic was to be empathic with their child, to understand and make the good relationship with them. It came out that the biggest fear, especially for the women is that their children will repeat the mistake they did, to get married early in their lives.

The Women's Support Group activities were particularly supported through a grant provided by Land Vorarlberg Austria, the project: "Empowering Women of Kosovo (EWOKOS) 2.0 to empower the women of Kosovo to overcome traditional gender inequalities and actively shape a better future, with a specific focus on improving the emotional and physical well-being of girls and women from the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities.



In this project the important roles of the women were focused on reading and writing classes and sewing workshops. At the tailoring workshop, the women produced the tutu skirts of the preschool girls for the event on 20th of November.



On behalf of International Women's Day on the 8th of March, a dedicated hygiene workshop was conducted at the Tranzit Center, a pivotal initiative aimed at promoting the well-being of women and girls. A total of 50 women were provided with essential hygienic items, contributing significantly to their overall health and comfort.

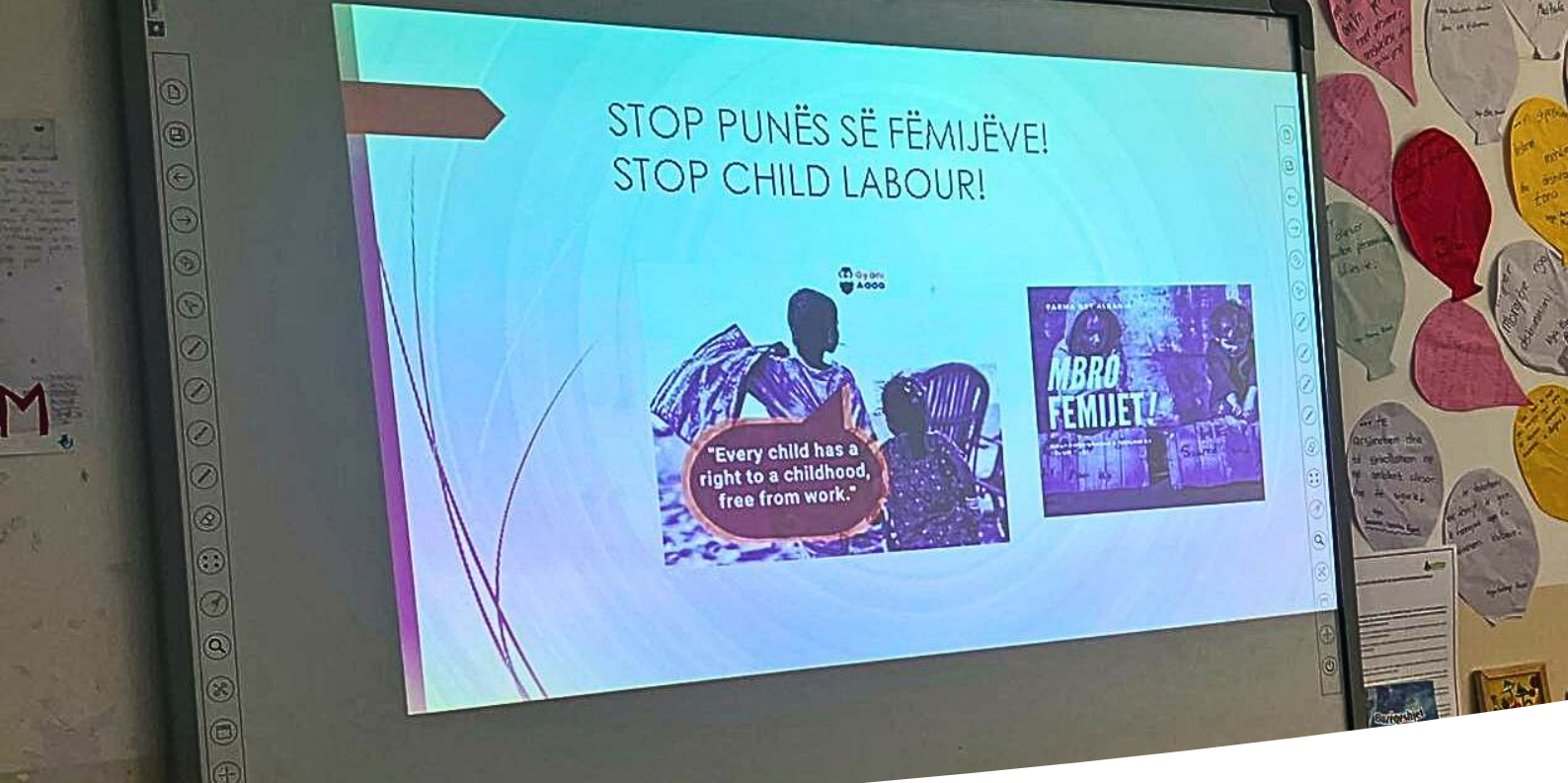


On 30.09.2023 all the women of WSG and some young girls went to watch “Romni” film in Lumbardhi cinema in Prizren. This documentary film (based on a true story) was shown as part of the "Marriage is not for children" campaign, organized by the Voice of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians Organization but, the production of UNMIK (United Nations Mission in Kosovo) with an aim of raising awareness on early marriage.

After the film screening, a discussion panel was held on preventing the subject in question.

The panelists were: Valbona Belallari, Psychologist of the Tranzit Centre, Luljeta Demolli - Kosovar Center for Gender Studies, Hysnije Berisha, Political Advisor for legal affairs at MLGI, where they have discussed strictly the early marriages.





Spirituality

Meetings on spirituality with children have been organized monthly, focusing on themes such as International Children's Day, the Day against Child Labor, and a visit to the Holocaust exhibition "Racial Diagnosis: Gypsy."



Special activities under the spirituality topics have included discussions on Greek culture and values, religion and values in Africa, the Holocaust and racism against Gypsies during WWII, the importance of Ramadan in the Muslim religion, watching the movie "Matilda," and giving to the poor.

On June 9, in observance of the International Day against Child Labour, the discussion topic was the importance of education in children's lives, emphasizing that child labor is child abuse. Besides the program participants from our Tranzit Centre, volunteers from the ALG Gymnasium were present.

The concluding message was: "Let them earn knowledge, not money."

Our Spirituality group had a remarkable day visiting a mosque and a church, reinforcing the idea that at the core, we are all bound by our shared humanity.

At the end of the year, a spirituality session was organized around two questions: "How important are the end-of-year holidays for you?" and "How can you describe the year you left behind in three words?"



Vocational Counselling

New groups of Vocational Counselling created for 2023 consisted of 10 youngsters/adolescents.

The first session of the "Vocational Counseling" took place on January 19, has taken where it was an introductory meeting where the discussion topic was: "their dreams".

The most important goal of vocational counseling is to contribute to the holistic development of children and young people, supporting their transition to the world of work and decision-making as they strive for continuous improvement throughout their lives. It can also help children and youth better define their dreams and interests and the importance of staying in school and participating in the life of their communities.

Starting early with the children, around 14 y.o., with vocational counselling, we are open up their understanding towards future job choices, guiding them to find the appropriate educational path to achieve their wishes.

The discussion topics for the monthly meetings were: banks and role of banks in Kosovo, role models, voluntary work, social medias, internship work, child labour, etc.

In May, a Vocational Counselling session took place, and the topics were: "role model" the importance of education, and conflict management where the presence of special guests like:

Dr. Bernhard Drumel (the Chairman of the CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale), Mrs. Elena Matache (International Development Director of CONCORDIA International), Mrs. Gjyzel Shaljan (ME) and Mr. Fatmir Morina from "Foleja" NGO.



The July's topics of the Vocational Counseling (VC) session were: 1. Voluntary work; and 2. The importance of practical and voluntary work in the preparation of the labor industry.



Due to this it was organized a visit at “Frutex” L.L.C in Suhareka where the Vocational Counselling and secondary school students of CONCORDIA Tranzit Center by being given a concise introduction to the factory's complete production line and products.

Under a topic: task importance, time management, and teamwork the Vocational Counselling and staff from CONCORDIA Bulgaria had a joined but at the same time had fun session where the youngsters were able to learn about the task - teamwork importance and time management.

The month of November was inspiring for the youth. In the frame of the Vocational Counselling and Tranzit Orchestra project, two activities were organized. The first was a day trip to Tirana, where they visited the “Museum of Leaves” and learned about the communist regime.

After that, they met with the NGO IRCA (Institute of Romani Culture in Albania) and registered a song in the music studio of this organisation. This trip has helped young people to be introduced to some new professions. The second event for the youth was the visit to Liri company.

After applying to a call opened by Kosova Makers League Foundation, we have been selected to participate in the robotics competition '**KOSOVA MAKERS LEAGUE OPEN**' 2023-2024, where 4 youth will learn to program small robots under the guidance of one of our employees that was trained to be their mentor. A group of youngsters were trained for three (3) days on Arduino programme (how to make LED blinks; how to lighten up 4 lights with potentiometer; and how to bring into life a small motor, joystick, etc, with the support of the International Volunteer.

Youth participated in several events in Mitrovica, in the frame of the project “Harmonizing Diversity - The Balkan Youth Music Exchange Initiative” in partnership with Kosova ARS NGO.

On the special occasion of Celebrating International Roma Language Day our enthusiastic youngsters visited the Roma Library in Durmish Asllano in Prizren. Short interviews of 3 youth were promoted on the Facebook for the World Youth Empowerment Day.

In December, as an acknowledgment for the hard work, commitment, and dedication of each of our Vocational Counseling members for their vocational journey, they were awarded with Appreciation Certificates and symbolic presents.



A Success Story



A Story of Hope!

Bajra, a 16-year-old girl from a family of four, has faced immense challenges recently. Her mother tragically passed away after a prolonged illness, leaving her father as the sole breadwinner. The family is struggling financially, and Bajra and her two siblings have taken on significant household responsibilities.

Initially, Bajra was uncertain about continuing her secondary education due to the hard circumstances.

However, through supportive discussions with CONCORDIA staff, she was convinced of the importance of education for her future. This marks a significant positive turn in her life, as education can open doors to better opportunities, especially in difficult situations.



Bajra is not only determined but also talented. She plays the cello in the Tranzit Orchestra, showcasing her musical abilities. Additionally, she likes drawing, which serves as a creative outlet and a potential skill for her future.

Recognizing her interests and talents, Bajra has chosen to enroll in a secondary Technical school with a focus on fashion design. This proactive decision highlights her commitment to pursuing her passions and acquiring skills that could benefit her in the long run.

Bajra's story is an indication to her ability and determination to continue her education and explore her talents despite adversity.

CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre is providing the and will provide the necessary support and encouragement to all youngsters like Bajra, helping them navigate their challenges and work towards a brighter future.



Parent's School

This year's first session of the "Parents School" took place in January with the 10 new members that will have to conduct twelve modules (according to the PS's manual) once a month.

Among the topics: the importance of parent-child communication, the cooperation of parents with educators and teachers, changing their attitudes and social norms by continuing the girls and young women's education, financial education (with the support of the volunteer), parents' responsibilities to send their children in school, employment relationship and rights, and ethnic discrimination.

Educating parents to support their children continue their education, thus, having better chances in their lives and brake the cycle of poverty, should be a continuous process. Mentalities, cultural believes and luck of understanding are aspects that should be addressed long time.

Some of the meetings with the parents were organised during tips or visits, like: excursion to Dukagjini Lake in Gjakova, where the aim of this discussion was to raise parents' awareness, be empathic, and to better understand their children.

Another meeting included the visit of the Holocaust exhibition "Racial Diagnosis: Gypsy" subject to the racial discrimination during the II WW toward Sinti and Roma people of central and eastern Europe.

The collaboration with the local Police was increased– two events organised in Tranzit with parents and adolescents to discuss about early marriages, begging on the streets, dropping out the school, child labour, domestic violence, aiming to increase the knowledge of the potential penalties on the parents according to the law .

Beside the above- mentioned, Parent's school project also had the monthly meetings focusing on child care and hygiene.



In December the parents celebrated the end of the twelve modules with a reflection exercise by participating in the End of Year Concert in Tranzit Centre where they were awarded with the Appreciation Certificates and symbolic presents.

Child protection and violence prevention

At CONCORDIA, child protection and well-being are our top priorities.

As a children's aid organisation, we are committed to protect children at risk and upholding children's rights.

Children's rights are a solid foundation for us in our daily work.

For this reason, we decided to have our internal child protection mechanisms audited by the independent organisation Keeping Children Safe.

Thanks to the financial support of our partner Remus Innovation GmbH, we were able to utilise the necessary resources for rapid certification in order to review and certify our child protection guidelines. This audit was crucial for us to ensure that our child protection measures meet the highest standards.



As a children's aid organisation, child protection is a top priority.



*Martina Raytchinova,
International Child Safeguarding Officer
at CONCORDIA Social Projects*

” The certification is of the utmost importance to us, as child protection is our top priority. We work with children every day and are proud that our well-functioning child protection mechanisms help to protect them from any harm in the best possible way. At the same time, we see the certification as recognition of the work and commitment of our teams.





Music School

In January, an activity was organized by the "Children's Parliament", where all six teachers of Musical Instruments were invited in order to explain the basic information about instruments and music to those children that are not registered yet in any instrument, where the interest was huge.

The same six (6) music teachers continued teaching children in Tranzit Centre, with the same number of hours per week as during the previous year: 3 teachers with 24 hours/month (piano, guitar and cello), 2 teachers with 32 hours/month (violin and flute) and 1 teacher with 56 hours/week (saxophone, clarinet and orchestra conductor).

Labinot, our music university student (already in the third year of studies), voluntarily teaches drums during summer holidays.

A season of concerts in the Tranzit Centre was open on March 22, under "Flowers Concert" which was a second (2) solo concert of the children performing in front of their parents. While, on behalf of the 18th anniversary of ALG, an "Open Door Day" ceremony was organized, a good opportunity for friends, supporters, and many guests to get to know the ALG school from another dimension. At this event, CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre Orchestra was among those friends entertaining participants with some music parts.



A project financed by Vita Activa Foundation gave us the opportunity to continue the music school.



The following concerts took place:

- On June 1, the International Children's Day CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra had a concert at the "Galleria Shopping Mall" in Prizren;
- On June 21, World Music Day, the "Music Feste" at Key (Quay).where Students of ALG and the Orchestra of the Tranzit have performed;
- On November 5, Celebrating International Roma Language Day with Harmony and Music, our Orchestra performed in Fushe Kosova at the premises of the NGO Multiethnic Culture of Kosovo;
- November 9, Tranzit Orchestra performed in the Museum Hall of Mitrovica. conducted by Prof. Rustem Gashi. In addition to our Orchestra, many other musical groups from all over Kosovo were also present who beautifully represented Kosovo's rich cultural diversity. This event was organized by the NGO Kosova ARS, for all communities with the message "Harmonization of Diversity Initiative", which proves that we are all one, regardless of ethnicity; and
- December 28, the end of year concert at CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre.



Classes:

- 47 children and youth are registered in music classes (instruments) and
- 18 for the choir;
- 12 members in drums;
- 26 members in Tranzit Orchestra.

Events

- "Flowers Concert" solo concert at the Tranzit Centre.
- Participation of the cameral CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra to the Roma Day on 7th April;
- Participation in the orchestra and drawings exhibition to the Open Doors event of Loyola (18th anniversary);
- Concert on June 1 at Galleria Mall: In honor of Children's Day, the CONCORDIA Tranzit orchestra performed a special concert.
- Concert on June 21: To celebrate the International Day of Music, a concert was held in collaboration with the students of "LOYOLA GYMNASIUM".
- "LULU Dance Academy" with Galleria Mall - event to raise funds for two of our talented girls to participate in their ballet classes;
- End of a year concert by CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra.



During the year 2023, regular meetings were held with the Directorate of Education of the Prizren Municipality and the school management, like: 'Ibrahim Fehmiu', 'Abdyl Frashëri', 'Loyola' and '26 Marsi'.

In November 2023, students of ALG - Loyola-Gymnasium in Prizren received Appreciation Certificates for their voluntary work in CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale Tranzit Centre.



Other activities

Two “Next to CONCORDIA Van” activities have been organised to mobilise children and parents from the rural areas to raise their awareness about children rights and that in Zhur, and in Landovica villages.

Children from CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre prepared Christmas cards for the children in Zhur and Landovica.



Four (4) excursions for the children in the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre as rewards for their good results either at school or regarding their behavior in the Centre:

1. an excursion with the youngsters at the new Mall in Pristina (as per the request of the Children's Parliament addressed to the management) visit the playground and watching a movie;
2. one excursion has been organized for the smaller children from the Tranzit early childhood education program (2 – 6 y.o.) at the playground of Galeria Shopping Mall in Prizren;
3. another one for youth and early education visiting the Korisha waterfalls; and
4. "Protect and Preserve wild animals": On July 14, small children of the Tranzit Centre has visited the “Bear Forest” in Prishtina. It was an unforgettable moment and a great happiness for all of them to see the wild animals.



On May 13, the group of the programme participants of the primary education were very happy about their participation in the interactive play "Aferdita Again at the School" (Theatre of Prizren "Bekim Fehmiu"). It was a great pleasure for children and the audience to be a part of every moment of this play.



End of the Year Happiness!

On November 27, children had a possibility to explore and discover the national clothes, ancient dishes, and historical monuments at the Prizren League Museum.

Not to forget the best time of joy and happiness when children are having the greatest expectations on the holiday season!

The ALG - Loyola-Gymnasium Prizren adorned with Santa heads and hearts full of warmth brought presents to our programme participants!

The Mobile Team Santa spread joy to the faces of vulnerable children in Landovica, Zhur, and Pirane and to the children of Tranzit Centre.

Galeria Shopping Mall brought and an anonymous donor touched the hearts of our children by showering hundreds of beautifully wrapped presents.

These gestures demonstrated that the spirit of giving knows no boundaries and can truly make a meaningful impact on the lives of those in need, especially during the festive season.





”

I find it terrifying that in the heart of Europe there are still countries where half of the children are at risk of existential poverty. For many years, CONCORDIA has been giving a hand where the need is greatest. We will advance this mission with all our strength. No child should be left behind.

*Dr. Bernhard Drumel
Chairperson of CONCORDIA Kosovo Board*

Meetings/Visits/ Visibility

- On March 8, it was organized and hosted in our CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre the event “Roundtable Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo – barriers and opportunities”.



- On April 24, CONCORDIA Kosovo was honored to be visited by Ms. Elizabeth Gowing, the Advisor for Community Affairs of PM, Ms. Nurije Shala the Political Advisor to the Prime Minister, and Ms. Manuela Petrovic.



- At the beginning of May, a study tour to Romania was organized.



- On May 29, CONCORDIA Tranzit Center was honored to host Mr. Alien Ciocănea the Head of the Liaison Office of Romania in Prishtina.



- On June 2, the Mayor of the Municipality of Suhareka visited the Tranzit Centre.



- In September, CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale became a member of KOMF (Coalition of NGO's for the Protection of Children in Kosovo).



- During the period of July- September the feasibility study was conducted to identify the Municipality with the highest need for opening the second Day Centre.

Meetings/Visits/ Visibility

- On 2nd of October, meetings were organized between the President and the CEO and the Mayors of the Prizren and Gjakova municipalities.



- The Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport gave an interview to an Austrian journalist that visited CONCORDIA in early November with the topic “challenges and achievements of the Roma community in Kosovo”, emphasizing the important role and impact CONCORDIA has on the lives of the children, families and communities.



- At the mid of November, CONCORDIA Transit Centre welcomed Mr. Martin Lenz, the Head of the Department for Projects and Project Cooperation Renovabis Foundation.



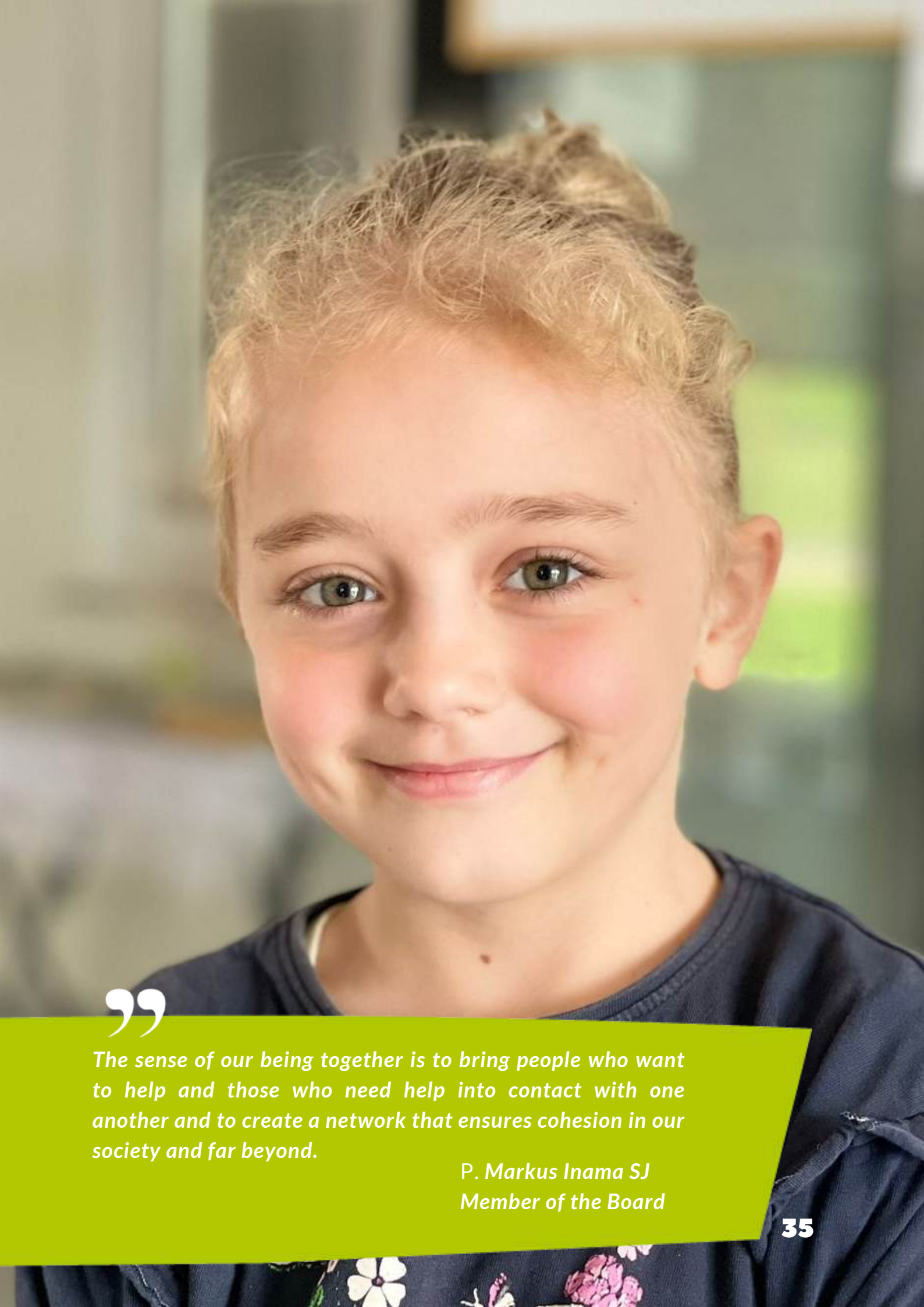
- In November we received the visit of OSCE Mission Kosovo representatives and discussed about CONCORDIA's experience in organising a learning centre according to the national legislation of the Ministry of Education.



- The largest visibility event due to the audience and broadcasting on national and TV stations as well on various social media accounts, was the event “Give the Children Wings” on 20th of November, in Galeria Mall Prizren, with the occasion of the International Children’s Day (the day when was signed the UN Convention on children’s rights). The occasion aimed to celebrate and advocate for children's rights, providing a platform for various stakeholders to come together in support of the cause. The event, first of such organized in Prizren, was a resounding success, bringing together a diverse group of participants, donors, and the local community.







”

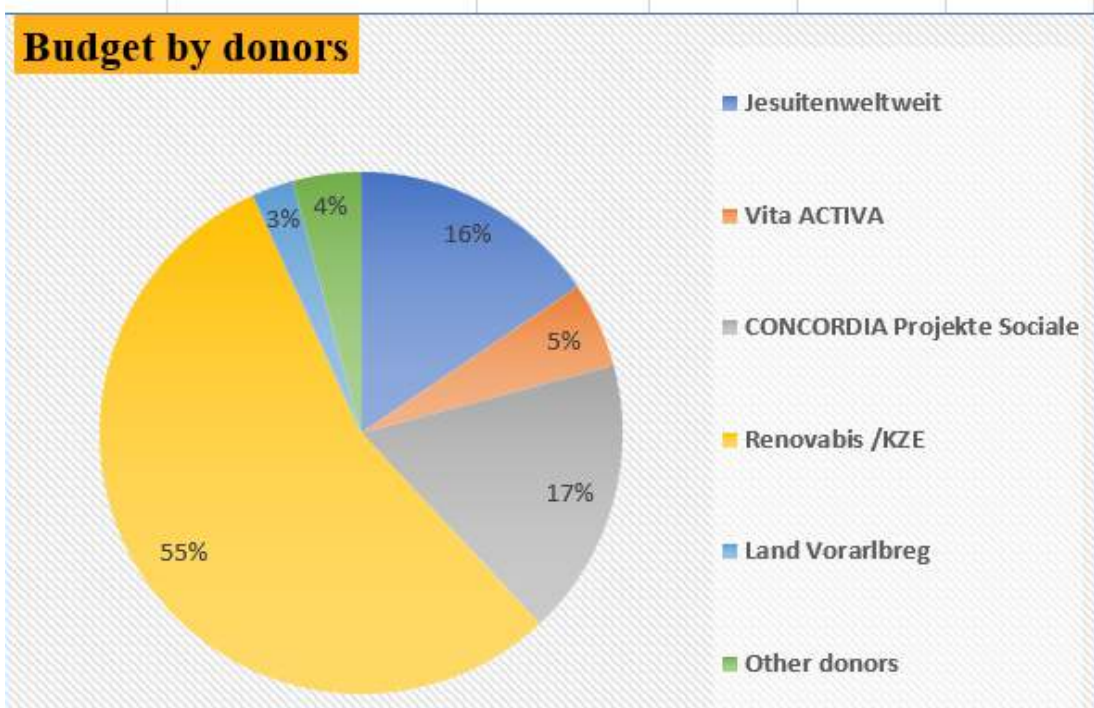
The sense of our being together is to bring people who want to help and those who need help into contact with one another and to create a network that ensures cohesion in our society and far beyond.

*P. Markus Inama SJ
Member of the Board*

Fund sources - According to Donors

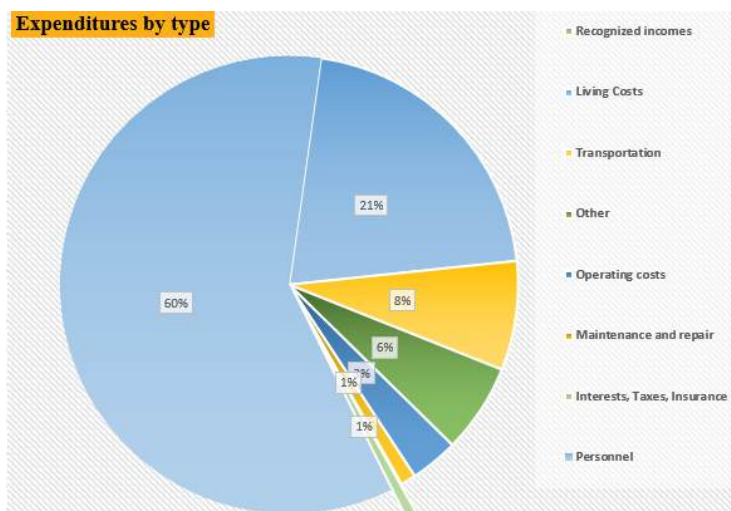
- CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale has a Public Benefit Statute that it doesn't pay VAT.

Total Budget	389,633.00 €	100%
Jesuitenweltweit	60,582.00 €	16%
Vita ACTIVA	20,588.00 €	5%
CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale	67,004.00 €	17%
Renovabis /KZE	214,935.00 €	55%
Land Vorarlberg	10,001.00 €	3%
Other donors	16,524.00 €	4%
Percentage of selffinancing		
80%		



Types of costs

Total Donations for 2023	391,720.00 €	100%
Restricted funds/assets PPE	2,087.00 €	1%
Recognized incomes	389,633.00 €	
Living Costs	79,654.00 €	20%
Transportation	29,081.00 €	7%
Other	23,801.00 €	6%
Operating costs	12,806.00 €	3%
Maintenance and repair	4,060.00 €	1%
Interests, Taxes, Insurance	3,126.00 €	1%
Personnel	224,666.00 €	57%
Low inventory	1,722.00 €	0%
Depreciation	48,334.00 €	
Total expenses	427,250.00 €	
Surplus/deficit for the year*	(35,530.00) €	
*Deficit is due to depreciation of gifted property .		



Auditors opinion!

We have audited financial statements of CONCORDIA - Projekte Sociale ("the organization") which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2023 and the Statement of Income, Statement of Changes in Net Assets and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended on that date, and notes to financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies. In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the 'CONCORDIA - Projekte Sociale as at December 31, 2023 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and requirements of the Law No. 06 / L-043 on Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations, as described in the Note 2 of financial statements.

Gratitude!

Donors

- A gratitude for your support to our donors, sponsors and partners.



Miss Albania 2022
Mrs. Elona Ndrecaj



GJIRAFA JOY



BELI SH.P.K



MY MARKET
PRIZREN

Private Donor: Mr. Ahmad Shamim

Affiliations: KOMF; CIVIKOS.

Partners: ALG LOYOLA; NGO PEMA ;
NGO KOSOVA ARS; DIAKONIE; VORAE.



National Office:

- Mirela Lavric - Executive Director
- Gjeneta Çoçaj - Finance Director and Programme Coordinator for Tranzit Centre
- Arlinda Zhupi Muslu- Project Officer and Communication/ PR
- Uliks Hoxhaj- Fundraiser and Guitar Teacher

CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre

- Mynever Basha- Teacher, National Focal Point for Child Protection and Coordinator of the Parent's School
- Saranda Berisha -Teacher and Coordinator of Learning Centre
- Valbona Belallari- Psychologist and Coordinator of the Women's Support Group
- Dorentina Bytyqi- Social Worker and Coordinator of the Vocational Counselling
- Argenita Mijalica- Social Worker and Coordinator of the Mobile Team

- Melisa Jurush- Teacher
- Nehari Shporta- Nurse
- Krenar Mustafa- Project Assistant
- Blerta Berisha - Preschool Teacher
- Vlora Cakaj- Educator Assistant
- Jetmir Mustafa- Educator
- Rahmi Mustafa - Cook
- Zoja Mersulaj - Janitor
- Ramadan Saiti - Night Guard
- Skender Krasniqi - Night Guard

CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre Music Teachers

- Rustem Gashi - Clarinet/ Saxophone Teacher and Conductor of the CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra
- Adonis Gjini - Cello Teacher
- Berat Tafallari - Piano Teacher
- Egzona Dullaj - Violine Teacher
- Marigona Delija - Flute Teacher

**We thank you for your
continuous support!**



USP (Unique Selling Point)

**CONCORDIA
Projekte Sociale,
is the only NGO in Kosovo
that possesses two (2)
licenses for: Learning Centre
and Social Services issued by
the Ministry of Education,
Science, Technology and
Innovation, and
the Ministry
of Justice.**



CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale Association

Lahuta e Malësisë, 20000 Prizren / KOSOVO

office@concordia-kosovo.org, www.concordia-kosovo.org

<https://www.facebook.com/concordiaprojektesociale>

Registration number as NGO: 5118824-1

Fiscal number: 602444325

Raiffeisen Bank Kosovo

IBAN: XK05 1501090004327049

BIC: RBKOKPR

