

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



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## WE WE ARE

# FriendShip Prague, z.s.

is an English-speaking network of Czechs and Expats which exists to provide support and friendship to the homeless and people in need in Prague.

Our story is connected to Help Prague's Homeless, a Facebook group where we first met and volunteered, gathering at the Main Train Station since January 2018.

During Covid, a new way was found to support the homeless people, by a cooperation with local NGOs at Sophie's and Amadeus Humanitarian Hostels where we have been providing food, beverages, toiletries, other necessities.

Stepping up the commitment, we decided to create FriendShip Prague, z.s. and register it as NGO, becoming an independent and formally established organization in September 2021.





# Our name is our mission statement

We do not only supply goods but, most importantly, we provide support and Friendship.

Our "**Ship**" is a place where homeless people can always feel welcome, accepted, and safe.



### OUR VALUES



#### Our Values

Firstly, we believe in human dignity and that all deserve to have their basic needs satisfied, regardless of any life background.

Bringing back that dignity and treating them like humans means so much to them. We believe that these moments of connection and normalcy are seeds for change and a potential rebirth in their life.

We cannot be indifferent to this reality in Prague and, although we cannot change it overnight, we believe in the impact that our action can have, being a strong message to all!





## Executive Summary

After focusing our support on the humanitarian hostels during COVID and post-COVID time, reorganizing a frontline outreach service, meeting and helping those sleeping on the streets was something we aimed to achieve in 2022.

### Outreach services

In **February**, we coordinated our first **MONTHLY WALK**.

In March, we also organized our first WEEKLY GATHERING at Náměstí Winstona Churchilla, thanks to the permission granted by the Prague 3 district.

During the year, with no interruption, we have met and served approximately 100 people weekly, providing them with food, drinks, and clothes. Additionally, we distributed new socks and underwear, sleeping bags, hats and gloves, and toiletries based on donations and specific needs.

Most importantly, we connected with our Friends through positive and caring interactions.





### Outreach services

When we registered FriendShip, we envisioned a "SHIP" as the base of our mission.

In May, we rented an office at Dům Radost, thanks to the generous support of a private sponsor - this became the place where we could better organize the Foodbank supplies and the clothing donations, as well as a space for our volunteers to join their efforts to support the homeless community.

### **Spreading** awareness

Following our mission to spread awareness about homelessness and promote humanity and philanthropy, we continued organizing storytelling sessions, bringing together the women and men who consented to share their stories and photos with the public.

We delved deeper into their backgrounds, understanding their childhood experiences and the circumstances that led them to homelessness. We sought insights into their challenges and the key messages they wished to communicate about homelessness to the public. Additionally, we inquired about their passions and hopes.





### **Spreading** awareness

#### In October 2022, we organized our First Human Library Event.

Taking place at Coffice
Prague, the event featured
our Friends, Standa, Jozef,
and Alena, as human books,
who generously shared their
stories and engaged with
questions from the
audience.

The event provided a safe space for dialogue, allowing attendees to learn more about our Friends' hardships and challenging stereotypes.

In April, we organized a HARP CONCERT for our friends at Sophie's Hostel, where Solenn performed a beautiful and heart-felt performance, bringing the joy of music into places such as the shelter where live music is not commonly available.

In May, we organized a ONE-**DAY TRIP AT THE ZOO** for the women living at the Amadeus. It's not often that these women can do something just for fun; with your help, we could change that. The Darujme campaign was a triumph, and we covered all the expenses, including transportation from the shelter to the zoo, entry tickets, snacks, lunch at one of the restaurants and even a small souvenir to remember the day.





In **September**, we organized a **BARBECUE EVENT** at the shelter. Typically, visiting or thinking about a shelter reminds us of the sad reality faced by those in need.

However, on this occasion, we left with a positive feeling.

We witnessed the positive impact it had on our friends and those who continue to believe in our vision and mission.

With food, beverages, music, and dancing, our friends, musicians, and volunteers came together to create a unique event that will be cherished in everyone's memories.

In October, we celebrated WORLD HOMELESS DAY by distributing abundant and delicious meals, made possible through generous donations from Ezra's Bagels, Arte Gusto, Cafe Nebušice, Mozzarellart, Restaurace Na Paloučku, and Dolcemente. Children were also invited to participate in the event, contributing by donating flowers and drawings.

As important as providing our friends with necessities is, it's equally important to offer them meaningful experiences and spend quality time together. Therefore, in **December** we organized a **FREE MOVIE AFTERNOON** for our friends, featuring a screening of the Czech Christmas classic "Tři oříšky pro Popelku" at Kino Ponrepo.





Our **"Donate a Warmer Christmas" campaign** was once again a success.

We received over 300
Christmas socks from individuals and through partnerships, distributed to our friends at the shelters through other charities supporting our homeless friends in Prague. Additionally, Yoga with Karina offered a charity class at The Little Mole school, where we raised approx. 15.000 CZK thanks to the kind donations of the participants to Darujme.

Along with other donations, we provided a traditional Czech Christmas meal and new hats, gloves, and underwear for 100 homeless friends at our special Christmas gathering at Bike Jesus.

#### Cooperations

Throughout the year, students and teachers from the INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PRAGUE generously participated in multiple campaigns to collect food and toiletries, coordinated by our young superhero volunteer, Lexi Rizzo.

SLOVANSKE GYMNAZIUM
also chose our NGO for their
monthly community service.
They assisted with the
preparation of the food bags
once per month,
immediately bringing an
efficient and positive
contribution thanks to their
experience and attitude.





#### Cooperations

IGR EUR'HOPE, a French association involved in a humanitarian InterRail trip across Europe, volunteered their time and offered assistance at our weekly gathering, contributing to a lovely solidarity initiative and enriching cultural exchange.

We also initiated volunteering days for corporate employees, and in **October**, **EXPEDIA** participated in their company's Month of Caring initiative. They generously donated 400 hygiene kits (including toothbrush sets, shampoo, conditioner, shower gel, and soap).

In **December**, **MASTERCARD** employees joined us by assisting with preparing our annual Christmas gathering event.

### Cooperations

Lastly, two exchange students from the **EDUCATION FACULTY OF CHARLES UNIVERSITY,** *H.* and *L.*, dedicated their anthropological fieldwork to FriendShip Prague. ♥

We felt proud and humbled by how their report highlights values such as welcoming, friendship, community-based effort, diversity and inclusion, integration between the Expats and Czech people, and unhoused and housed people, all extremely important to us.





My name is Standa Sokol, and I am 57 years old.

I was 37 when I got divorced, my kids were 7 and 9 when I had to leave. I found myself having to pay quite a lot in child support, rent, taxes, and eventually, I just couldn't manage it all.

That was when I started to live on the streets. I couldn't afford everything, and with prices increasing all the time, I just found this way of life easier. You know, I would need to earn 60,000kc just to be able to afford everything and have a place to live for myself.

To be honest, my story is actually quite common as it happens to many people.

You find yourself in some financial trouble and here you are, on the streets.

Sometimes, when people are in these kinds of hard financial situations, but still have some work and can earn some money, they try to partner up with friends or people they meet so that one can pay for the flat and the other takes care of food.

This was my case. I would live with friends or people I knew but because I did not have a stable income, it was difficult for me to contribute my half of the deal.

I was working in construction, but the job is very uncertain, seasonal, comes and goes, and is not dependable....



#### PŘEHLED O MAJETKU A ZÁVAZCÍCH Název a právní forma účetní jednotky: Die vyhlášky č. 325/2015 Sb. ke dni 31.12.2022 (v celých tisících Kč) FriendShip Prague, z.s. Sídlo účetní jednotky: Chlumova 515/11 108 38 031 Praha 3 130 00 Předmět činnosti účetní jednotky: činnost neziskových organizací Běžné účetní období Minulé účetní období A. Majetek 01 Dlouhodobý nehmotný majetek 0 0 02 Dlouhodobý hmotný majetek 03 Finanční majetek 0 0 0 0 04 Peněžní prostředky v hotovosti a ceniny 0 05 Peněžní prostředky na bankovních účtech 168 43 06 Zásoby 0 0 0 07 Pohledávky 0 0 0 08 Úvěry a zápůjčky poskytnuté 09 Ostatní majetek 0 0 10 Majetek celkem 168 43 B. Závazky 0 01 Závazky 0 02 Úvěry a zápůjčky přijaté 2 0 03 Závazky celkem 0 99 ROZDÍL MAJETKU A ZÁVAZKŮ 43 Sestaveno dne: Podpis odpovědné osoby (statutární orgán): Podpis osoby odpovědné za sestavení (sestavii): 13.09.2023 Renata Sorce Renata Sorce



#### PŘEHLED O PŘÍJMECH A VÝDAJÍCH Die vyhlášky č. 325/2015 Sb. Název a právní forma účetní ke dni 31.12.2022 jednotky: FriendShip Prague, z.s. (v celých tisících Kč) Sídlo účetní jednotky: Chlumova 515/11 108 38 031 Praha 3 130 00 Předmět činnosti účetní jednotky: činnost neziskových organizací Běžné účetní období Minulé účetní období Hlavní činnost Hospodářská Hlavní činnost Hospodářská činnost činnost A. Příjmy 01 Prodej zboží 0 0 0 0 0 0 02 Prodej výrobků a služeb 0 0 0 0 0 0 03 Příjmy z veřejných sbírek 0 04 Přijaté peněžní dary mimo veřejné sbírky 452 0 103 05 Příjaté členské příspěvky 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 06 Dotace a příspěvky přijaté z veřej, rozpočtů 2 0 0 07 Ostatní 0 08 Průběžné položky 0 0 0 376 09 Kursové rozdíly 0 0 0 10 Příjmy celkem 830 103 Běžné účetní období Minulé účetní období Hlavní činnost Hospodářská Hlavní činnost Hospodářská činnost činnost B. Výdaje 01 Dlouhodobý nehmotný a hmotný majetek 0 0 0 0 02 Materiál 176 0 48 0 03 Zboží 0 0 0 0 0 04 Služby 12 149 0 0 0 0 05 Mzdy 0 0 0 0 06 Pojistné za zaměstnance a zaměstnavatele 0 0 0 0 0 07 Ostatní osobní výdaje 0 0 08 Ostatni 4 0 0 09 Průběžné položky 376 0 0 0 10 Kursové rozdíly 0 0 0 705 0 11 Výdaje celkem 0 60 99 ROZDÍL PŘÍJMŮ A VÝDAJÚ 125 43 Podpis odpovědné osoby (statutární orgán): Sestaveno dne: Podpis osoby odpovědné za sestavení (sestavil): 13.09.2023 Renata Sorce Renata Sorce

#### **Numbers**

### NUMBER OF PEOPLE HELPED:

Approx.

**5000** 

(with one meal and a clothing donation)

#### **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

6

**GATHERINGS ORGANIZED:** 

64

### SCHOOLS AND COMPANIES INVOLVED:

6

### VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED:

Approx.

100

new volunteers and

50 regulars

# SOLIDARITY NETWORK OF CAFÉS, RESTAURANTS AND BUSINESSES:

**12** 

#### **SPECIAL HELP:**

toiletries, zoo's day trip, new socks and underwear, snacks and meals for special events, cutlery and supplies, winter necessities, Christmas presents, traditional Christmas meals.

Thanks to all those who have contributed, both individually and collectively, to providing our homeless friends with the support they need and deserve!

Gratitude goes out to our volunteers, coordinators, supporters, and donors!

This success wouldn't be possible without your hard work, effort, and generosity. We couldn't do it without you!



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