

LIBERA

**Croatian Association for Education, Entrepreneurship and
International Cooperation**

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT FOR „WE EMPOWER CROATIAN CHILDREN TO OVERCOME FEARS“

Dear donors and supporters,

We are immensely grateful for your support of the project in these challenging times. The fact that you gave us your trust gave us the strength to move on.

The Coronavirus pandemic was a great challenge for us and due to the compliance with Covid19 measures we were unable to hold workshops in schools. Although we were aware of the fact that during that time **children needed us the most.**

Also, we believe that these small steps of ours that aim **to pay more attention to the mental health** of children in these challenging times, will also trigger an approach towards children who have exaggerated fears. And that they will be treated with lots of care, tenderness and compassion.

I am sure we will achieve our goals and **we will continue to build a positive story thanks to your support.**

The therapeutic dog Beni, alongside with the psychologist Ruta, came to the workshop we held at the Library “Tin Ujevic” Zagreb. The workshop was attended by the Elementary School Julije Klović, Zagreb 5th graders, with the presence of their teacher.

And with Beni’s help, Ruta also encouraged them to think about their emotions, whether they were positive or negative. The workshop passed in a cheerful mood and the children learned, through socializing with the therapeutic dog, how to **recognize negative emotions such as fear and how to overcome them in a painless way.**

After the workshop, everyone confirmed they were looking forward to another meeting with Beni and Ruta.

After the workshop program, we continued with informal socializing.

<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/we-empower-croatian-children-to-overcome-fears>.

The realization of project activities in the previous period is in accordance with the set goals of the project, related to the following:

- socializing and workshop for 22 children with a therapy dog Beni and his mentor Ruta
- children's photo session to remember the wonderful socializing with friends and activities with the therapy dog and
- handing out some gifts that included water, pens, papers and candy

All those **activities will help prevent** later severe forms of **anxiety** and at the same time contribute to solving related specific social problems and proactively influence the development of the community as a whole. **Therefore, your support is invaluable to us.** We also believe that the pictures in the attachment will cheer you up and that you will see that your donated funds are used for the right purpose.

With love and warmth,

The Libera Team







