

LIBERA

Croatian Association for Education, Entrepreneurship and
International Cooperation

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



Dear donors and supporters,

thank you for supporting our activities with your donations.

The photo shows **Ksenija**, who has been singing in the **Danica Women's Choir** for over twenty years. She was delighted that we got involved

the choir in our project and that they can collect funds for various humanitarian activities.

This is her picture from the **celebration of the day of the local committee “Antun Mihanović” at Trešnjevka in Zagreb**, where the choir and the association Libera are active.

The choir sang three songs during the celebration, and the event was attended by all the users of the local board, residents of the nursing home and children from

the neighborhoods.

On that occasion, a sales exhibition was also launched, in order for the users of the space to collect as many funds as possible for humanitarian projects.

The event at the beginning of June was held on the plateau in front of the local board, and the members of the choir were especially happy for Rico and Josipa.

As **Rico was aware of the fact that the first impression is the most important**, everyone present was delighted with his outfit and the new scarf around his neck.

I don't need to tell you that all the members of the choir were instantly attracted by his appearance and delighted by his behavior. Thanks to his presence,

everyone felt better and the performance of the choir was commendable.

During the performance, the members of the choir wanted to bring old Zagreb songs closer to the listeners with their singing and in some way tear them from oblivion.

- the audience followed everything attentively
- Conductor Igor put a lot of effort into making the singing as good and impressive as possible
- and the musical background in the form of a synthesizer should not be neglected either.

What most attracted the members of the choir to our project was the fact that we all struggle with some fear, and since most of the members are over 60 years old,

the fear of aging should not be ignored either.

However, they are all very optimistic, ready for action, never complain and find something positive in every activity.

And that is one of the reasons why the Libera association asked them for support in the project.

We were especially attracted to Ksenija, who is now the president of the choir, because she comes to singing rehearsals with such ease and joy. By her appearance,

one would never say that she has entered her eighth decade of life.

He also takes care of finances and takes on every task with a great desire to do it as well as possible.

- **The performance included the following:**

Mrs. Smiljana presented the choir at the performance. It was founded in 1999 and the members have been singing together for many years.

They perform works of Croatian and world heritage, from medieval to contemporary musicians, and especially cherish original Croatian chants that are rarely performed.

They decided to support the project WE STRENGTHEN CROATIAN CHILDREN TO OVERCOME THEIR FEARS with a spring performance and

to cheer up children and people of good will from our neighborhood.

And since the goal of this project is to empower children and their mental health, they decided to join it.

Mrs. Smiljana also mentioned that they believe in the project of the Libera Association because they like positive stories and believe in the project

WE EMPOWER CROATIAN CHILDREN TO OVERCOME FEARS.

- **Description of songs:**

For that occasion, the choir chose three beautiful songs, and to familiarize the audience with their work:

- Oh my youth, traditional, by an unknown author,
- Ti gariful, by Meneg Novak from the island of Hvar,
- Tebi grade moj, by Pero Gotovac, in which the city of Zagreb was sung, so that the audience sang the said song together with the choir

- **Audience feedback**

- The audience was unusually satisfied with their performance. They listened attentively to Mrs. Smiljana when she talked about the history of the choir.
And as soon as the members of the choir started singing, the audience followed all the songs with applause and hums.
After the performance, the conductor was also very satisfied because there were no mistakes in tonality, and the songs were heard clearly and sonically.

All these activities had a positive effect on all the people and children who attended the event. Rico was in a particularly good mood so everything went smoothly.

However, above all, we were most pleased by Josipa, who is expecting a baby in September. We all wished her good health for her and the baby and that

she would come back to us as soon as possible, so that we could come up with new activities for the children as soon as possible.

Rico is a beautiful dog, now he is at the peak of his strength and activity, he can spend the next five years, and after that he goes to a well-deserved retirement.

The members of the choir did not expect Rico and he was a surprise for them, some became especially attached to him, and some just curiously observed what he could do.

There was a lot of laughter, fun and songs, and this activity will definitely be memorable.

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

- gathering and performance of the choir in front of fifty members of cultural and artistic associations, neighbors and children in Trešnjevka North,
- socializing with Rico and Josipa and exchanging opinions regarding new activities that are planned for the fall of this year,
- photo session to remember the performance and the wonderful time spent with the therapy dog
- sales exhibition of works by all members of the space user associations

All these activities were held in order to promote the project and the desire to bring people closer to working with therapy dogs, with the help of which it is easier to overcome later more severe forms of anxiety disorders.

The activities will also contribute to solving related specific social problems and proactively influence the development of the community as a whole.

Several choirs and about fifty participants of various activities in the local committee were involved in the mentioned activity. Since the program was more suitable for older people, ten children attended, since the students of Julija Klović primary school went on summer holidays.

So in the fall, we will repeat the mentioned activity for them as well.

Dear donors, we invite you to stay in touch with us or contact us through social networks or through our website

if you want to know more about our project.

We believe that the attached pictures will also cheer you up.

The Libera Team





