

**CHILD
POVERTY
ERADICATION
PROJECT**



28  J.N.

Who are we?

28. Jun is an international humanitarian organization in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC).

Founded in 2012, to date the Not-For-Profit has delivered 200 tons of humanitarian, medical and disaster relief aid worth \$7 million to the Western Balkans.

Our mission

Engaging people worldwide in humanitarian, social, philanthropic projects to assist and empower underprivileged communities.



Child Poverty Eradication Project

Sponsor a child - Because every child needs someone like you!

Sponsoring a child is the most personal, effective way to fight poverty. When you sponsor a child in need, you build a special relationship that encourages your child with hope for the future.



EVERYTHING WE DO HAS ONE AIM – THE SUSTAINED WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN. YOUR SUPPORT HELPS PURSUE THE PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF VULNERABLE CHILDREN

Children feel anxious and stressed when parents endure unemployment or income loss, and they suffer family downturns in subtle and painfully evident ways.

Trapped in the cycle of poverty Children rarely manage to sidestep the stress and suffering of parents enduring unemployment or a significant reduction in income. They experience downturns in family fortunes in both subtle and painfully evident ways. They suffer minor slights and major humiliations in front of friends and classmates. They are consciously or unconsciously affected by changes in their diets, the elimination of sports, music or other activities, or a lack of funds to buy school materials. Extreme circumstances may force their families from their homes or even their countries. Poverty is a self-reinforcing cycle. A child with unemployed parents may do less well at school. Doing less well at school may bring more stress at home. And so on. The longer a child is locked in the cycle, the fewer the possibilities of escape.

Where we started?



Croatia is located on the north-eastern shore of the Adriatic Sea, bordered by Slovenia and Hungary to the north, Serbia to the east and Bosnia-Herzegovina to the south and east. The population is 4.5 million. Croatia's capital city, Zagreb, has approximately 700,000 inhabitants. The number of children under the age of 18 is estimated to be 999,000.

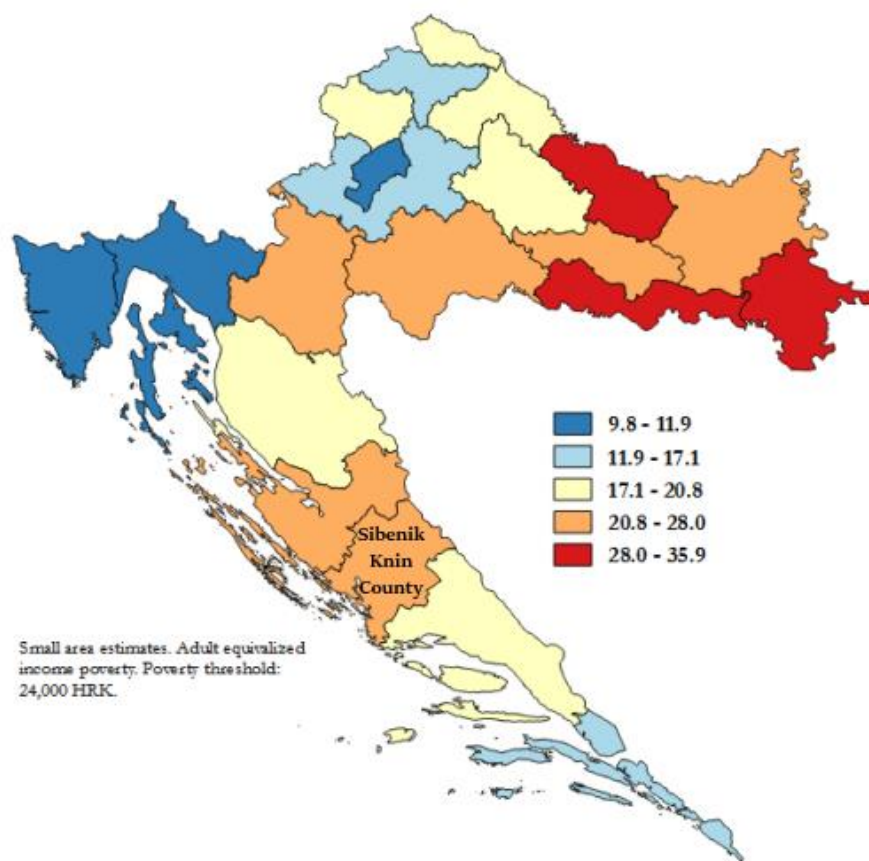
Most of the population is Croat, Serbians account for the second largest group (12 per cent) and Bosniaks, Hungarians and Slovenes are present. The major religions are Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and minorities professing the Muslim faith.

Croatia declared independence from the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in 1991. The war between 1991 and 1995 caused immeasurable damage to the economic infrastructure and displaced a large proportion of the population. Much of this population remains unable to return to its place of origin.

Since the end of the war, the Croatian economy has been making a slow recovery. Tourism, accounting for nearly a fifth of the gross domestic product, is the main source of employment and income. Over two thirds of the population works in the service industry, a third in industries such as steel, cement, chemicals, fertilizers, and textiles, and around seven per cent in agriculture. Unfortunately, corruption, cronyism and an inefficient public administration are affecting the rate of development.

Unemployment rates remain high at around 16 per cent. Around 18 per cent of the population lives under the nationally established poverty line. Both of these factors affect families with children and an increasing number of children are being placed in institutions due to poverty. We believe this number could be reduced if families were given adequate support.

Where do the poor live?



This is the cold reality for many families. Due to difficult socio-economic circumstances, even parents who are employed struggle to provide enough food for their children.

Statistics and our experience in the field has confirmed the despairing situation children are living in Croatia, especially in the Sibenik – Knin County. Two of the poorest municipalities in Croatia are in the Sibenik-Knin County, where in Kistanje the poverty risk rate exceeds 74 percent, which means that more than two-thirds of people survive on less than two thousand Kuna's per month, and in Citizens, this rate is 64 percent.

What are we doing?

For the past 12 months, our organisation has been working on a project aimed to help the minority population living in the Sibenik – Knin County.

People belonging to these minorities often struggle to find work, raise children, and find hope and opportunities for the future. Although outward progress seems inevitable, covert discrimination still occurs. Intercultural communication is scarce, making it difficult to find opportunities for work and progress.

This project has enabled our organizations to provide modest assistance to the people of the Sibenik – Knin County, to help sustain their lives, and in some cases provide a chance for a better tomorrow.

In the following pages of the attached report, you will have the opportunity to see how our organizations directly influenced the lives and hopes of these people.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1OWbJIT0BMnEDKTG0CBGOLVN08_Dnazy1mv8nqJOxkZk/edit?usp=sharing



We wanted to work to build equality among citizens and to make these people feel important despite their struggles. Providing economic assistance in farming equipment and livestock, believing that our investment will result in self-sustainability for the people we assisted. More than anything, we wanted to give them hope for the future.

Experience has taught us that the best way to change a child's life is to transform the world in which they live – their family, their community and the local area.

However, we did not stop there. We decided to further invest into the most vulnerable and vital members of this community. The children. This November we launched our Children Poverty Eradication Program providing 25 children with monthly sponsorships.

Sponsoring a child is the most personal, effective way to fight poverty. When you sponsor a child in need, you build a special relationship that encourages your child with hope for the future. Furthermore, through various Sponsoring programs, a student can get reliable and independent in the later years of his or her life.

Our process

The selection of children for sponsorship is a respectful process, which happens in partnership with the local community. We worked with the community representatives to identify the local areas where the needs are the greatest and the community helped us to choose children from that area for sponsorship.

Sponsored children were chosen from the most vulnerable families and being sponsored gave them increased visibility and importance in the community. Attached is a report of our first 25 sponsored children.

An assessment is carried out by local 28 June Volunteers alongside community representatives, local authorities and other non-government organisations in the area.

Participation in all 28 June programs is voluntary, and sponsored children and their families choose to be a part of the program. We always respect the rights of families to make decisions about this.

WHEN YOU SPONSOR A CHILD, YOU ARE JOINING A COMMUNITY OF GENEROUS INDIVIDUALS COMMITTED TO BRINGING LASTING CHANGE TO CHILDREN LIVING IN POVERTY.

Before we commence a sponsorship program, the following things must be in place:

- Community understanding and commitment to the program
- A basic level of security and stability in the community
- An in-depth enquiry into the family's overall situation and difficulties
- A commitment from the donor for a minimum of 12 months



Why you should sponsor a child with 28. Jun?

- We work with wider communities facing disadvantage as well as children and families; your sponsorship will have an even greater impact.
- We are also the first and only organisation in the Balkans working on a child sponsorship program.
- Our donation is deposited directly into the family's bank account not through a third party or community leader, giving the family the income boost.
- Our sponsorship will be a little more diverse at times; at least three times a year (Christmas, Easter and at the beginning of the new school year) we would gift the children vouchers to buy in certain shops. Thus giving the children an opportunity to venture out of their small towns into the city and the choice of purchasing what they want.
- Full transparency
- Your sponsorship improves life for both your child and their whole family and our prior and constant projects within the child's community provides the exact blend of sustainable development for families.
- Active community participation and empowerment is encouraged within 28. Jun project areas. Whilst children are at the center of the locally developed initiatives, the emphasis is on encouraging self-help by providing families and communities with the means to reshape their future.

