



VILNIUS
SOCIAL
CLUB

Season 10 Activity Report

2022-2023

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Vilnius Social Club Team



Comment by the Head of Organisation

This summer we celebrated the 10th anniversary of Vilnius Social Club. Ten years of work, discovery, learning and growth, meetings... A truly unique experience, filled with so many different emotions. I feel privileged to have been able to grow with this organisation.

Remembering the very beginning – everything started from scratch, and today so much has been accomplished... It all started with an idea – an idea of new social-educational services for children and young people. It started with a philosophy that strives to help young people by building a relationship of trust and equality with them, a philosophy that preaches having an open attitude towards people while respecting their background, listening to their needs and wishes and giving them the opportunity to express their emotions... Today we see that these values and principles have led us in the right direction. Seeing how much my team and I have been able to create and achieve in ten years makes me feel proud and grateful to all the people who have contributed to the Vilnius Social Club.

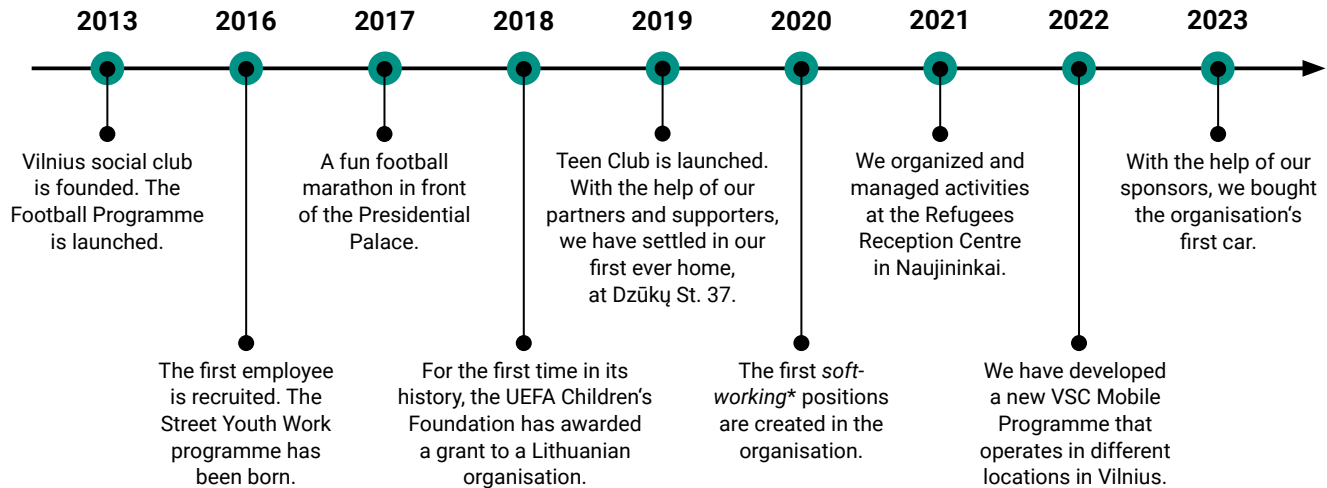
For this unique and meaningful adventure, my sincere thanks go to the current and former staff, interns and volunteers who have made it possible for us to fulfil our mission. I also thank the partners and supporters who have put their trust in us. And, of course, thank you to the young people for the shared experiences, for the opportunities to grow and learn together...

In ten years on this challenging path, we have taken on many tasks that seemed impossible to achieve. But today, it seems that there's still a lot that needs to be accomplished before we are able to create a fairer and more sustainable society. How do we integrate minorities into our society? How can we promote access to quality education and sports activities for all? How do we fight social exclusion, stigma and poverty? How can we strengthen the links between people in the community to achieve greater solidarity among us? Lots of questions that we will continue to strive to answer! I invite you to join us on this path to move forward together!

Cédric Raffin



Highlights of the past 10 years



*The worker accompanies and provides support to the young person at their workplace.

Vilnius Social Club



There are
4 programmes:

The Football Programme,
the Street Work Programme, the Teen
Club, and the VSC Mobile Programme.



There are
14 employees.



13 volunteers
who help out.



More than
**350 children and
young people**
receive our services.



We run over
500 different activities
every year.



We work with more than
50 partners.

Football Programme

Football sessions do not aim to achieve good sports results, but rather focus on a qualitative change in the child's life.

Reflection on the qualitative results of the football programme:



Football sessions

Participants have become more self-confident, more able to express and process their feelings, they are able to collect themselves more quickly in conflict situations and reflect on their experiences.



Working with families

The solidarity fee has encouraged parents to take more responsibility for their children.



Individual communication with young people

We have noticed that the older the participants are, the more one-on-one communication needs to happen, more attention is given to them individually and less work involving their family is performed.



Camps, trips, events

Different types of activities have given young people the opportunity to become leaders in non-football trainings and to develop other competences. A joint camp for several groups and a 10th birthday football tournament reinforced the sense of community.

Statistics

The team



3

employees



3

volunteers

Participants



106

Football programme activities



7

groups



197

classes

Working with families



Children from

43

families participate
in the programme



845

interactions and
contacts with
families

Camps, trips, events



22

trips



1

summer camp



1

football tournament

Individual work



944

consultations

Partners



23

organisations
and institutions



275

contacts
with partners



When I lived in Tajikistan, I had a neighbour who was my best friend and with whom I spent a lot of time. We played football together, socialised and supported each other a lot, and had hobbies in common. After I had to leave Tajikistan, I couldn't find such a friend for a long time and I missed the feeling of connection. I started to speak more Lithuanian when I started playing football and after this season, I can say that I have found another best friend in my life here."

Young Idris, 16 years old.

Street-based Social Work

The Street Work programme is a long-term programme that aims to build strong relationships with marginalised young people and provide them with all-encompassing social and educational support.

Reflection on the qualitative results of the activities of the Street Youth Work programme:



Consistent interaction with young people in the courtyards and streets of Naujininkai

Young people have become more courageous in their interactions with each other. Some young people have become more aware of their options, they are able to reflect on their experiences more, and are more able to ask for help.



Individual counselling and accompaniment

The meetings focused on mental health, work, exclusion, self-confidence, relationships with parents, and overcoming crises.



Open food evenings

A core group of young people emerged, informal learning took place, and volunteers and a trainee became actively involved.



Working with partners

We were active in the Lithuanian Street Workers Network. Together with our partners, we tackled issues related to young people's employment, integration, mental and physical health, and shared experiences of working on the streets.



Other activities

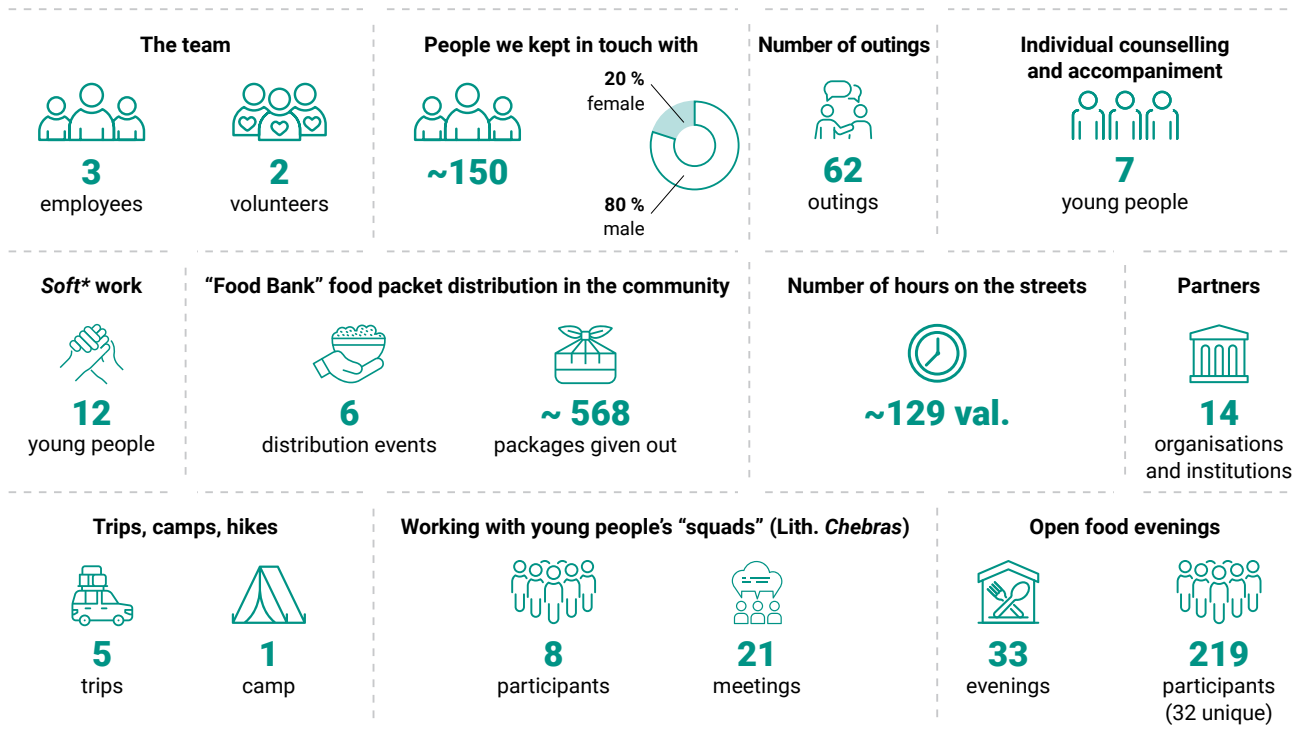
A member of the team attended an international conference on street work in Slovenia.

Together with young people, we participated in the Lithuanian Street Workers Network meeting in Marijampolė.

Together with partners, an open event "Reflecting on a Year of Street Workers" (Lith. *Gatvės darbuotojų metų refleksija*)

Statistics

*The worker accompanies and provides support to the young person at their workplace.



For me, open food nights are the place to come up with new ideas, to cook something new, to meet people, and to have a good time. It feels like home - the teens are friendly, and I've known a bunch of them for a while now."

Vova, 23 years old

Teen Club

The Teen Club is a programme that creates a safe space to experience early adolescence, to grow and develop as an individual, and to receive all-round support in dealing with various difficulties. The programme addresses the needs of teens aged 11 to 14 years.

Reflection on the qualitative results of the Teen Club:



Work in a group

The group has become more resilient to challenges, more inclusive and more accepting and open to continuous learning. The group has learned to be more independent, caring, empathetic, and resilient emotionally, as well as more mature.



Individual accompaniment

The youngsters were learning new ways of life, how to develop and nurture new connections, and grow as individuals. They have become more confident, better at expressing their emotions, making decisions, and have become less afraid of making mistakes. They pursued their own goals.



Parental counselling

There was more work that needed to be performed with the families this season. This work was more diverse and involved constant contact.



Trips, camps, hikes

There were more activities than in previous seasons. It has been possible to organise them in a way that focuses on the needs of young people. The activities ranged from hiking to spending the night in the organisation's premises.



Working with partners

With the help of other organisations, we worked with young people on the daily challenges they experience: difficulties at school, emotional and behavioural issues, family crises.

Statistics

The team



3

employees



2

local
volunteers



1

international
volunteer

Participants



15

young people

Individual counselling for teenagers



6

young people



103

consultations

Work in a group



87

meetings

Parental counselling



90

meetings

Trips, camps, hikes



7

trips



5

camps

Partners



12

organisations and institutions



We were looking for meaningful extracurricular activities for our teen and what we found exceeded our expectations. The Teen Club was created by professionals, and warm and youthful personalities and strives to ensure that teenagers can analyse their emotions in a safe environment.

Members of the group feel comfortable enough to share their own experiences and feelings and to listen and respond to others. Thanks to the club, my son has learnt to express his anger, to stop harbouring his feelings and to recognise and put a name to them. What was surprising was that the work is not only performed in a group, but also individually, in cooperation with the parents, while at the same time protecting the confidentiality of the teen. Teenagers are not rushed or pressured, they feel free and do not feel constrained. The club was engaging and disciplined, expanded their circle of friends, and a lot of wonderful moments in memorable activities took place. We are extremely grateful for this wonderful opportunity to be part of the club."

Agnieška, a mother



VSC Mobile Programme

The VSC Mobile Programme is an educational social support service for young people that aspires to help them grow as a person and learn to actively participate in society. The main activity of the programme focuses on regular activities in different public spaces around the city, that everyone is welcome to participate in. They develop young people's social skills through play.

This season, the mobility sessions were held not only at the Juventus Stadium in Naujininkai, but also near the White Bridge. The research phases were carried out in V. Kudirka Square and in the playgrounds near the Savanorių pr. bus stop.



Mobile activities

Safe spaces were created for very different groups. They were created in order to help these groups feel part of the community. During the activities, attitudes towards Romani people changed – at the beginning of the season, some teens avoided playing together, but by the end of the season there was less resistance. The activities continued throughout the season – even in winter! Permanent groups of teenagers participating in the activities near the White Bridge have formed.



Camps, trips, hikes

The first camp of the programme was organised with the Street Work team. Shortly, we managed to establish a trusting relationship with two attendees of the activities near the White Bridge – two young people and their families. They also attended the camp.



Working with volunteers, interns

Throughout this season, the focus was on finding ways for volunteers to get involved in activities performed at new locations.



Working with partners

The long-term cooperation with the Juventus School in Naujininkai and the use of their stadium has produced positive results.

Statistics

The team



3

employees



3

local volunteers



1

international volunteer



1

intern

Participants



~ 705

(111 unique)

Mobile activities



66

activities



128 hours

Camps, trips, hikes



1

camp

Other activities



Participating in

a film photography project

with the teens

Partners



4

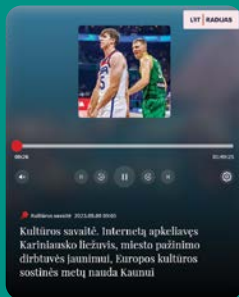
organisations
and enterprises



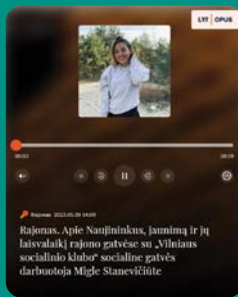
Doing my internship at the Vilnius Social Club was one of the best experiences of my social studies. I learned how to work in a team and realised that building a connection and a relationship is the foundation and the beginning of all processes. Being involved in different activities helped me to monitor my progress, discover my strengths and weaknesses, and get to know more young people and respond to their different needs."

leva, an intern

VSC in Media



← LRT radio show „Culture Week“



← LRT Opus radio show „Rajonas“



← Bernardinai.lt article. „When the connection is more important than the goal: A football programme born in Vilnius changes lives“



← The publication „Social Work. Today. Tomorrow.“ (Lith. Socialinis darbas. Šiandien. Rytoj.) 2023 No 2

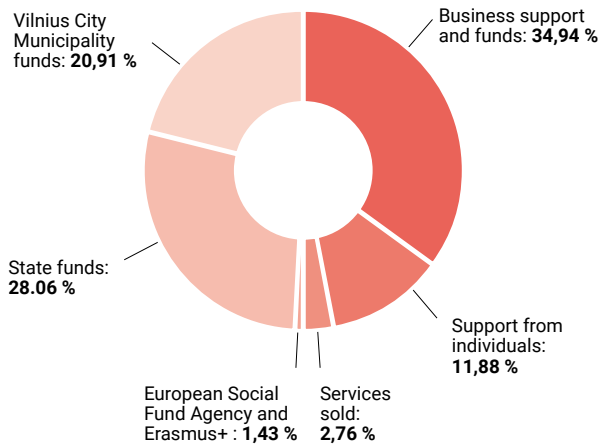


← A new practical guide to working with young people on the streets „Acting in uncertainty“



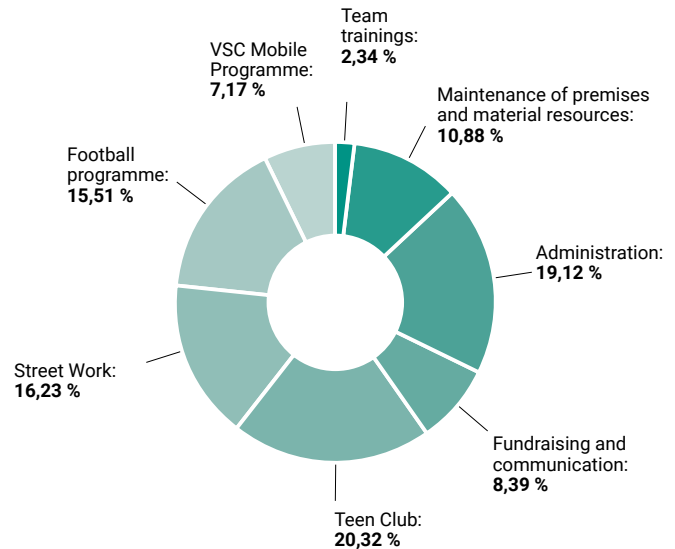
Financial Report

September 2022 – August 2023



Funds received

EUR 266,477.20



Costs

EUR 253,061.68

Funds not used in Season 10 are carried over to Season 11.

Thank you

for your financial support:

Adomas Žadeika



Financing the projects:



Support in the form of services and goods:



Partnership:



Volunteering:

- Aurimui
- Jonui
- Daniel
- Audriui
- Klaidui
- Marvino
- Ievai M.
- Alije
- Kornelijai
- Ievai G.
- Ievai Š.
- Noah
- Žemynai



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SOCIAL
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