



VILNIUS
SOCIAL
CLUB

11th

Season Activity Report

September 2023 – August 2024

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Reflection from the Leader

The eleventh season of the Vilnius Social Club is a continuation of our work.

Faithful to our identity and values, we have continued our mission with children and young people. We provide them with educational and social support, striving to listen to their needs and desires, offering them the opportunity to express their emotions and feelings.

I sincerely thank the staff, interns, and volunteers, who have devoted their time, energy, and knowledge to support these young people in their everyday life. I also thank our partners and sponsors who trust us and support our efforts. And, of course, thank you to the young people for the opportunity to grow and learn together.

Through our work, we aim to establish a strong connection with children and youth, so we can better understand the challenges they face. It is sometimes surprising how society fears adolescent's behavior and, unfortunately, tends to demonise them. In reality, we can understand that they are simply questioning the society we live in. The questions they ask us may sometimes seem destructive, but they deserve to be heard and accepted as an opportunity for growth for all of us.

How to find our place in a society where public spaces are slowly disappearing in favor of barriers and phone screens?

How to avoid feeling alienated when part of society closes itself off behind physical and psychological barriers, allowing stereotypes to govern emotions and overlooking the reality of each individual?

How not to be afraid of those who are different if we don't have a common place to meet and get to know each other?

How to grow up and find yourself when there is a lack of non-formal education services, or when they turn into businesses and lose their mission to educate?

How not to worry when there is constant talk of war, climate change, inflation, or in other words, the risk of poverty?

Many difficult questions, which is why it is uncomfortable. However, to punish those who provoke us or raise questions will not solve anything. Therefore we invite you to listen to children and youth, to take an interest in their views and needs. Together, let us seek a path towards a society of solidarity, openness, and sharing become the norm.

We will not only continue our actions, but also expand new services. We started our twelfth season with a wider range of services: Youth Programme for adolescents aged 14–18-year-olds, psychological consultations, and football and mobile activities in the Vilnius district.

Cédric Raffier



Vilnius social club team



Vilnius social club

statistics

September 2023 – August 2024



4 active programmes:

Football Programme, Street-based Social Work,
Teen Club, VSC Mobile Programme



**14
employees**



**20 volunteers
from 5 different
countries**



**Over 400 children
and young people**

participated in our services



500+ activities
conducted throughout
the season



Collaboration with
**more than
50 partners**

Football Programme

The goal of the football sessions is not only to achieve good sports results, but also to focus on qualitative change in the child's life.



Reflection on the qualitative results of the Football Programme:



Football Sessions

The structure of the group was stable and flexible, corresponding to the children's needs and without pressure, encouraging interesting discussions on topics such as social integration, family diversity, relationships with parents and peers, and cultural differences. Despite challenges with sports facilities, each group had its own designated space. There was strong involvement from volunteers.



Work with Families

A strong connection with parents was felt. Thanks to many opportunities (season closing events, excursions, open-door days, parent meetings), a supportive community of parents was formed.



Individual Communication with Young People

This helped strengthen connections with children and young people, especially when they began missing sessions.



Youth Exchange

For the first time in the organisation's history, young people participated in a Youth Exchange in France. The experience had a profound impact, growing and transforming their lives.

Football Programme Statistics

<p>The team</p>  <p>3 employees</p>  <p>7 volunteers</p>		<p>Participants</p>  <p>107 individuals</p>	<p>Football Programme activities</p>  <p>7 groups</p>  <p>197 classes</p>		<p>Individual communication</p>  <p>512 consultations</p>
<p>Work with families</p>  <p>71 families, with their children participating in the programme</p>	<p>Camps, Excursions, Events</p>  <p>28 excursions</p>  <p>1 summer camp</p>  <p>1 youth exchange</p>  <p>1 football tournament</p>			<p>Partners</p>  <p>26 organisations and institutions</p>  <p>149 contacts with partners</p>	



” My biggest challenge was meeting everyone in the first few days, as I had a lot of social anxiety. There was also a lot of stress when I had to present Lithuania during the cultural evening. My biggest victory was overcoming that social anxiety, and now I am a bit braver. I learned a lot about different cultures, ecological actions, and social responsibility.”

Nikita, a participant

Street-based Social Work Programme

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.



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

Young people are becoming more independent and distancing themselves from us. They are more self-confident and feel more comfortable in groups. They have a better understanding of their rights. The biggest challenge is reaching young people who stay at home in front of computer screens.



Individual counselling and accompaniment

With guidance, young people are given opportunities for new experiences: first job, personal bank account, first camp.



Open food evenings

Young people from different age groups are interacting more with each other. There is increased tolerance for diversity, and their daily living skills have improved.



Camps and hikes

Young people actively participated in all offered activities and took on significant responsibilities.



Work with environment and systems

We have been actively involved in the creation and development of the Lithuanian Street Social Work Association and continue to contribute to its activities.























Soft* work

Through this method, the connection with young women was strengthened, and one girl found employment at another institution.

*Soft work refers to the process where the worker provides guidance and support to a young person at their workplace.

Street-based Social Work Programme Statistics

<p>The team</p>  <p>3 employees</p>  <p>6 volunteers</p>	<p>People we kept in touch with</p>  <p>~90 unique participants</p>  <p>30 % female 70 % male</p>	<p>Number of outings</p>  <p>66 outings</p>	<p>Soft work</p>  <p>7 young people</p>
<p>Individual counselling and accompaniment</p>  <p>13 young people</p>	<p>Excursions, Camps, Hikes</p>  <p>6 excursions</p>  <p>1 camp</p>  <p>1 hike</p>	<p>Number of hours on the streets</p>  <p>~123 hours</p>	<p>Partners</p>  <p>13 meetings</p>  <p>3 organisations and institutions</p>
<p>Food Bank food packet distribution</p>  <p>3 distributions</p>  <p>261 packages distributed</p>	<p>Open food evenings</p>  <p>32 evenings</p>  <p>319 participants (41 unique)</p>	<p>Mobile activities at the Juventa Stadium</p>  <p>33 sessions</p>  <p>453 participants</p>  <p>avg. of 13,7 hours</p>	



I really enjoyed spending time with Žydrūnė. We could go to many places together—on foot, by car, or by bike. Everything felt very comfortable, we just go, talk, and so on."

Irma, a participant

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.



Work in a group

A stable team of staff and volunteers helped to quickly establish a safe space for the young people. Many thematic groups and educational activities were held.



Individual accompaniment

Individual work was crucial in helping some young people remain engaged in the group.



Parent counselling

There was ongoing communication with all the parents of the teenagers.



Trips, camps, hikes

Numerous educational activities and outings took place. A day camp proved successful and attracted new young participants to the group.



Working with partners

Considerable effort was put into collaborating with other institutions to raise awareness of the specific needs of early adolescence and the challenges related to funding.

Teen Club Statistics

<p>The team</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>3 employees</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2 volunteers</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>1 international volunteer</p> </div> </div>			<p>Participants</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>14 young people</p> </div>	<p>Individual counselling for teenagers</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>2 young people</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>25 consultations</p> </div> </div>
<p>Work in a group</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>91 meetings</p> </div>	<p>Parental counselling</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>46 meetings</p> </div>	<p>Trips, camps, hikes</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>6 educational activities</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>3 camps</p> </div> </div>	<p>Partneriai</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>3 organisations and institutions</p> </div>	



”

In the Teen Club, everyone is kind and friendly. I went to camps where I really enjoyed myself. All the activities were interesting, and even though there were disagreements or misunderstandings, we always solved everything together. We divided the tasks and took responsibility."

Gintarė, a participant

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 playing.



Mobile activities

A clear schedule for sessions was established at key locations: near the White Bridge, V. Kudirkos Square, and Žemaitės Square (on Savanorių Avenue). Staff members are easily recognized at all locations, strengthening connections with young people. The inventory was expanded with various games and equipment.



Camps

The camp had a strong therapeutic impact on the young people who participated.



Individual work

Two young people joined the Football Programme with staff support. One young person contributed to the creation of the newsletter.



Working with volunteers









There was a stable team of volunteers.



Working with partners

The VSC Mobile Programme is becoming more visible and recognized, with invitations to presentations and events.

VSC Mobile Programme Statistics

<p>The team</p> <p> 3 employees</p> <p> 5 volunteers</p>	<p>Participants</p> <p> 262 unique participants</p> <p> 35 % female 65 % male</p>	
<p>Mobile activities</p> <p> 113 activities</p> <p> 226 hours</p>	<p>Camps, Excursions, Events</p> <p> 1 camp</p>	<p>Partners</p> <p> 7 organisations</p>



It was interesting to meet very different and unique young people in the mobile activities, who often impressed me with their openness and involvement in the activities."

Neringa, a volunteer

Awards



The organisation's leader, Cedric Raffier, was awarded the "For Merits to Lithuania" medal by the President of the Republic of Lithuania, Gitanas Nausėda.



Teen Club programme employee, Rusnė Gužauskaitė, was recognized by the Minister of Social Security and Labour for her active work with young people facing difficulties and her efforts to explore new methods of working.



Football Programme employee, Ernest Moroz, received the Youth Worker of the Year award from the Vilnius Youth Organisations Union (VJOSAS).



Teen Club volunteer, Ieva, was awarded a certificate of appreciation for her active participation/involvement in the British Council's 'People to People' Programme and her contribution to creation of sustainable communities.

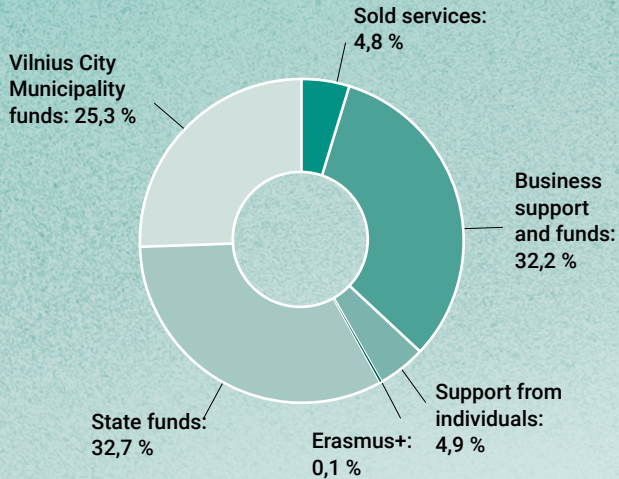
Important Events



VSC in Media

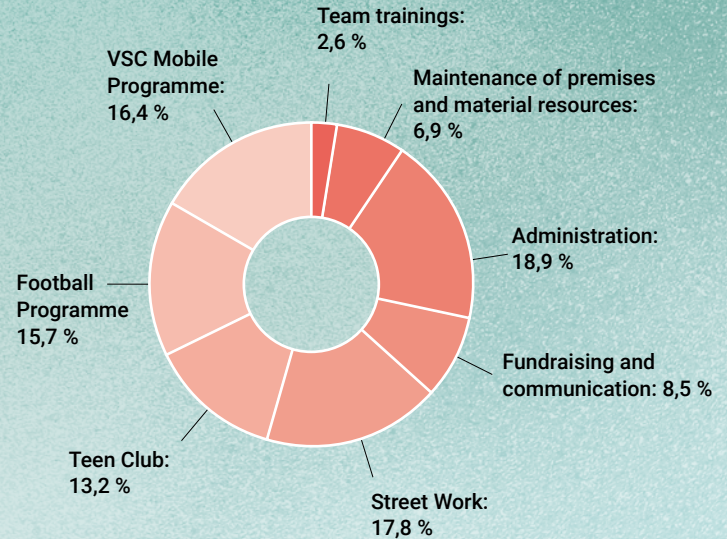


Financial Report



Funds received *

Eur 325690,01



Costs

Eur 282577,83

*Funds not used in Season 11 are carried over to Season 12.

Thank you

For your financial support:



Adomas Žadeika



Financing the projects:



Thank you

Support in the form of services and goods:



Partnership:



Volunteering:

- Ludvig (European Solidarity Corps)
- Gediminas
- Jonas
- Ieva G.
- Klaidas
- Neringa
- Marvinas
- Ievac Š.
- Andrius
- Ivo,
- Albin,
- Olalekan
- Fabio,
- Žemyna
- Ieva M.
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