



VILÁGSZÉP
Foundation

Annual Report 2021



FOREWORD



Kriszta Marton,
CEO of the Világszép
Foundation

Even though the world we live in was struggling with an onslaught of new problems in 2021, we still managed to have an exceptionally successful year. Looking back on it now it becomes clear that adapting and readjusting is a natural element of our everyday work at the Foundation. We are currently supporting 147 children and youth who come to us with their own individual needs, hopes and dreams. 147 young people who, even in times without a pandemic, constantly face unexpected problems that they need our help with. We created our 5+1 programs based on these needs, giving youth in the state care system as much individual attention and positive reinforcement as we can – through summer camps, weekly activities, storytelling, mentoring, and our kindergarten. The cherry on top is the Világszép Crisis Task Force, who bravely take on any and all sudden problems as they arise.

Over the course of the past few years we have become an organization of significant size: today, close to 140 “blue t-shirts” work daily on showing 147 amazing young people that the world can be beautiful and full of possibilities even for them. Every child gets the individual attention of an adult, which is the essence of our mission.

2021 was also a special year for us because we celebrated the tenth anniversary of our founding – our 10th birthday. We gave ourselves several presents. We gave gifts to our colleagues who often work overtime so that no one, child or adult, goes without help and attention. We gave gifts to the many experts in their fields who work with us or alongside us for the same goals, the same children. And we also gave gifts to the volunteers who give their time freely to ensure our success. These gifts were an enchanting art exhibit, an amazing professional lecture, and the first private VIP screening of a documentary about the youth we work with.

So that we can keep up this work for the next several decades, we continued full steam ahead with our fundraising efforts. We published a new book, created various premium services for companies who wish to support us – but the biggest event of the year was a charity auction. The groundwork for all of this was strengthening our communication strategies with the help of professionals. Our goal is to become one of the most well-known and respected NGOs in Hungary within the next few years. Until then we are proud of the fact that more and more individuals and companies see our work worthy of support, placing their trust in us by financing our programs.

Thank you all for 2021, and stay with us
for the upcoming years as well!

OUR MISSION

We believe that a child is an entire world.

We want to help all of them experience loving acceptance, undivided attention, and a world that is full of beauty and possibilities for them too.

WHO DO WE WORK WITH?

5
children's
homes

App. **150**
children who
grow up with-
out parental
care

Ages
3-25

OUR VALUES

DIVERSITY

We are all different, and that is our foundation. We love and respect diversity. By accepting each other we shape the world around us into a place where everyone can find the ultimate Beauty within themselves.

LONG TERM RELATIONSHIPS

We work to keep the Világ szép community here for tomorrow and beyond. We want to stay in contact with the children in state care from kindergarten all the way to adulthood.

PRESENCE

We turn to each other with an open heart and active listening. We focus on the present and its possibilities, rather than the past. We are available whenever we are needed.

SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

We aim to give space to each other's needs while we spend time together, and to help each other achieve their individual and shared goals.

BOUNDARIES

We have a system of boundaries deliberately and carefully designed based on expert opinions. These boundaries ensure safety and consistency, and guide us in resolving specific, individual situations.

ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS

SUMMER CAMPS

We organize our camps around giving every child individual attention and support appropriate to their age and interests. We spend quality time with them to help them experience unconditional acceptance, trust, and love. In the process we help them develop new skills, learn about their boundaries, and discover themselves as individuals as well as members of a community. They can explore their strengths through success and positive reinforcement, and they learn to build on them in their everyday life in the future.



STORYTELLING

Our volunteer storytellers spend quality time with the children while telling stories. Stories form a bridge between teller and listener, and our regular visits create consistency in the rapidly changing everyday life of the children. We aim to bring them moments of comfort and joy, to be an open and welcoming presence in the life of little ones and older youth alike.

MENTORING PROGRAM

Children growing up in state care often lack consistent individual attention, or receive less of it than they would need. Our professional mentors train and support a volunteer mentor team. Each mentor forms a long-term bond with their mentee; they aim to spend quality time together, have meaningful conversations, and organize programs that create happy memories. The professional mentors also have multiple mentees each, and they support youth who are in crisis.



LÉTRA CLUB AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

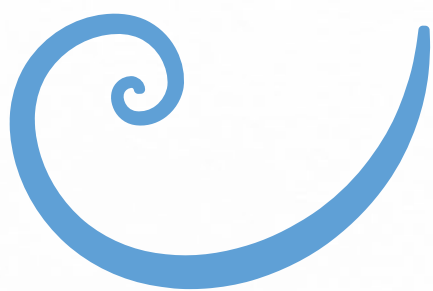


In our diverse community space we offer unique, inclusive programs for children of all ages. At the Létra Club we aim to help these children become creative, healthy, confident and carefree adults. We believe that creative freedom and positive feedback can help them develop skills and talents that they have not been aware of before.

PENDULA KINDERGARTEN

A welcoming, safe, creative space where everyone can become a part of the community in their own way, at their own pace. Along with children from families Pendula hosts 9 children of various ages from the state care system, supported by the Világkép Foundation.





VILÁGSZÉP



Foundation



SUMMER CAMPS



Erik Szécsi,
coordinator of summer camps
and group programs

During a conflict at one of the summer camps one of the youth behaved aggressively towards the camp staff, so I lifted them from the situation and, as camp leader, explained to them that we cannot be hurtful to each other. Following this conversation we spent 20 minutes in a peaceful corner of the Story Center's garden. As a way of defusing the stress I recounted our shared moments of the past 4 and a half years, and for each memory I added one of their positive traits that I valued. I told them that they are the sum of all of those good traits, and asked to speak to the young person I had grown to know and appreciate. At this point their eyes were still full of angry tears, but they were already smiling. We managed to discuss the situation, and soon they were running back to the other people who had participated in the conflict, smiling and giving hugs.



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

We had an exciting summer season, with 6 camps and a Volunteer Training Program. Sadly, we did not have enough kindergarten age children to organize a camp for them, but the Pendula Kindergarten made up for it by throwing a day-long treasure hunt. At the Story Camp we set up a Garabonciás Wizard School where young wizards could explore their own special powers. For the first time, this year our Creative Camps were run entirely by Világsszép staff and invited professionals. Beyond creative projects we also placed importance on experiential education, which presented a pedagogical challenge but resulted



in amazing learning processes and character development for youth and staff alike. At the Wilderness Camp we stepped out of our comfort zone and stayed firmly in the learning zone, having new experiences and a lot of laughs. At Career Camp the participating youth learned about 7 different professions while exploring their own talents and skills, helping them make informed career choices in the future. At Sunshine Camp, which was pirate themed, we built ships and set sail, giving the children carefree, happy moments. Last but not least, at the end of Volunteer Training Camp the Világsszép Foundation gained 11 new,



enthusiastic volunteers for our future work. These motivated young adults spent 3 days in a minority community, where they planned and implemented a program that helped them experience a supportive, productive role. They learned to act as adults with agency to change the world, rather than passively existing in it.

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE - 2022

Next year we will shape our summer camps to accommodate the children and youth from the fifth home we have started collaborating with. We are also seeking new professional staff for the Creative Camps, since 12-15 year old teens are now our largest age group, which we will have to split into multiple camps. We are updating our camp guidelines and renovating the Story Center so that they fit our planned programs even better. Also, for the first time we will have a structured selection process for camp volunteers, and advanced first aid training for all the camp staff.

NUMBERS



7
camps



82
campers



61 camp staff
(on average 1.33 child per staff person)



50
stories told in camps



20
encounters with our sugar gliders

STORYTELLING PROGRAM



Csenge Virág Zalka,
coordinator of the
storytelling program

Quotes from our volunteers

"I told The Prince Who Sought Immortality. It was amazing! A miracle happened. They all listened with eyes wide open, immersed in the story. I could tell that they visualized what I was describing."

"They asked if I had a tale with many frogs in it. Off the top of my head I told the story of The Grateful Frogs. (I was a little nervous since I haven't told this tale for a long time, but I could still remember the gist). They all paid attention and made comments. They loved the frogs; I made frog sounds and they did too. They were genuinely worried for the fate of the frogs. It was cute how the tale brought out all their empathy ☺"

"They were waiting for us, and happy to see us. The moment we arrived they started yelling STORIES!"



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2021 our volunteer storytellers continued bringing bedtime stories to the homes every week; neither pandemic nor quarantine could dampen their enthusiasm. Sadly, because of the lockdowns there were weeks when we had to skip storytelling, but even then we were with the children in spirit, gathering new tales for the next time we'd meet. Since storytelling is an important part of summer camps, this year multiple volunteers traveled to Paloznak to bring the

children more stories, as well as individual attention and loving acceptance.

In the fall we introduced the storytelling program to a fifth home, the Sztehlo Gábor Children's Home, where the children welcomed us with friendly curiosity. It was an amazing experience to introduce a whole new group of young people to the world of storytelling. They soon discovered that they can request stories on any topic: since September we have brought them tales about

snakes, dogs, ice skating, and even skateboarding!

In October we added 14 wonderful new storytellers to our volunteer roster. Seven of them became the new Sztehlo team, while the others reinforced the teams of the other four homes. They proved to be an enthusiastic, dedicated group of people who threw themselves into storytelling wholeheartedly.

Our collection of stories continued growing this year; it now contains more than 500 tales.



We select all of them according to the interests and needs of the children and the storytellers. In exchange for regular donations, our supporters receive Story Mail every season. Also, in 2021 we published the second volume of our series of folktale collections, titled *Mouse Deer and the Noontime Dream: Tales about tricksters, rebels, and wits*. The book received a lot of praise and positive feedback, and the sales support the work we do with our own dear little tricksters.

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE- 2022

We hope that in 2022 the pandemic will not interfere with regular storytelling anymore, and also that the volunteer team will be able to spend a lot more unrestricted time together. We are looking forward to drinking tea, taking long walks, and telling stories to each other on occasion! We will also continue inviting the storytelling volunteers to participate in the other programs of the Foundation whenever we can. Storytelling is one of our most valuable methods of connecting with the children, after all!

NUMBERS



130 hours
of bedtime stories
(even between lockdowns!)



5 homes we
tell stories in



39 volunteer
storytellers



227
stories told



505
tales in our database



app. **1** liter of Magic Flute
essential oil sprinkled around

MENTORING PROGRAM



Tímea Tarcsa,
coordinator of our
“individual attention”
programs



This year, for the first time ever, we organized a Mentor+ workshop day where we helped young people with planning their future as adults.

We asked a graphic designer in advance to secretly create a poster for it, hoping that they might like it enough to put it up at home. A few days after the workshop one of the young men cheerfully told me: “Guess what, I put it above my bed, so I can always keep my eyes on my goals!”

OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

Our “individual attention” team began the year 2021 with 27 mentors, and added a second professional mentor to our staff. In the fall, our team grew even more, accepting 11 new volunteers. The first quarter of 2021 was very much defined by the pandemic, so we kept using various online platforms for providing individual and group supervision to our volunteers. Even though personal presence can't be fully replaced with online meetings, we found that in the case of individual sessions they can be a quite

practical and functional tool in negotiating distance and lack of time. Because of this we have decided to continue offering an online option for our volunteers to meet with us in the future.

We have celebrated a full year of the mentoring program's presence at the Hűvösvölgyi children's home. We have a very good professional relationship with the home's principal, and we could give two new mentors to children there in the fall. We started our Mentor+ program for our 17 year olds, inviting 6 teens along with

their mentors to participate. Our goal is to prepare them for leaving the state care system and starting their adult life.

We were happy to see many of our volunteers participating in other programs of the Foundation during the year, including summer camps and after school programs.

The second half of the year was defined by the 10th birthday of the Világsszép Foundation. All our mentors worked on creating art, often along with their mentees, for our celebratory exhibit. We are incredi-



bly grateful that the Világszép Connections exhibit offered a chance for our mentors to introduce the Foundation to friends and family, and show off the

work they have been enthusiastically doing for years.

We are also happy that this year we had time to recharge: in May we spent a 2-day recre-

ational holiday in Paloznak with the volunteer mentors, focusing on spending time together, happily relaxing. In the summer we also held a half-day long team building session where our volunteers got to know each other better, processing their experiences through playful improvisational games with the help of a professional workshop leader. Both events were a huge success, and helped strengthen the bonds within our mentor team.

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE - 2022

We plan on adding new volunteers to our team next fall, as well as a third professional mentor to our staff. We want to offer a professional development workshop to the mentors who have been with us for more than a year. Since we had to help our youth move quite often this year (some of them multiple times), we want to find a way to react to this need next year. Our mentor staff will work on helping our 18-year-olds find permanent housing solutions.

NUMBERS



1854

hours of individual attention



38

volunteer mentors



50

mentees



19

times we helped someone move



9

crisis situations solved



3

professional mentors

PENDULA KINDERGARTEN



Laura Bavalics,
head teacher



Anyone could tell you that it is hard to pick just one memorable moment from this year.

For example, we got to know new children from a home we have not had any students from before. It was a moving, powerful experience. There was a little boy I knew belonged to the Pendula class, but I did not know how it would happen – but the strength in the Pendula team, working together for Them, removed all obstacles. I am incredibly grateful to my colleagues for that!

It might be a personal thing, but I have to mention one other fantastic moment... I got to be the conversation partner of Dr. Bruce Perry at the lecture he presented us for the birthday of the Világoskép Foundation! I will remember it as long as I live.

Also, a little gift of a moment, from a little girl to us... We had a new student who arrived from foster parents back to a group home, and to us at Pendula. We have known his sister since she was little, she even camped with us a few years ago in Paloznak. Then she moved out of the home and we lost touch for a while. Now, her little brother is at Pendula. One afternoon, a lovely young girl came to pick up her brother at the kindergarten. We saw each other, her face lit up with a cheerful smile, and she ran to me for a hug. She recognized all the teachers she had known from camp. She melted into our arms and I could feel her relax, knowing her brother is in a good place. In this incredibly hard situation, when they are once again surrounded by uncertainty, she arrived back to a place she knew. And with her unique, unforgettably beautiful smile, she seemed to give us her blessing to take care of her brother...

OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

As a teacher it is hard for me to think in calendar years, but I'll try.

The past year presented us with a lot of challenges at Pendula. Changes, uncertainties, limitations have tested our resilience, creativity and flexibility again and again. We tried to project confidence and empathy, and create safe boundaries for colleagues, families, and children alike. I am very grateful to everyone who stood by us in these challenging times, and supported our efforts! Late spring and summer finally brought us some relief, some lightness and ease we had all been looking forward to. It was a great turning

point when, after the lockdowns and pandemic regulations, the parents could once again enter the kindergarten – the changing rooms, the common rooms, the garden. I will never forget the time when we could finally, once again, celebrate the end of a project together in the central hall. It was beautiful and touching to feel that togetherness again.

We have once again said goodbye to several students heading to elementary school at the Pendula Farewell event. It was lovely to see how much the children had changed and developed over the course of the few years they spent with us. While it was bittersweet to



let the leave through the symbolic willow tunnel, we were extremely proud of them, and confident in our work here. Some children returned to their families from the homes, and some were sent to foster parents; letting them go was a difficult experience, but we did our best to support each other through it.

I am extremely proud that Pendula is becoming a popular,



high quality, professionally acclaimed kindergarten. We have a high number of children arriving from families, and we are in the lucky position of having a waitlist for next year already. In spite of this, the past year has

presented us with new challenges in terms of our strategy and professional development as well. We had fewer kindergarten age children from the homes we work with, therefore we had to reevaluate our re-

cruitment practice, and create new connections so that we could help the largest number of children possible. We have explored multiple options and opened new doors, but in the end, fate decided for us: new children arrived to the homes we already work with, and they found their place at Pendula.

It was good to see the Pendula team working together this year, to greet new colleagues, children, families. In the fall, we started forming new bonds and connections. In the winter, while I am writing this report, I feel like I am a part of a wonderful, accepting, supportive and diverse community.

LOOKING AT THE FUTURE – 2022

The next year we aim to strengthen our professional community. In order to achieve this, we will work on developing our professional workshop system.

Next to staying in contact with the homes we work with, we will also maintain our good relationship with other state care institutions, to make sure children who have the greatest need for a place in Pendula will be able to make their way there.

We believe that sharing our knowledge is vital. We want to go beyond occasional events and individual training sessions for future professionals, and start a regular training group for university students in the ELTE Pedagogy program.

It is my dream to develop tools to measure the impact of our methodology at Pendula, following up on how former Pendula students are doing in school, how they are fitting in and developing new connections. I hope that I will be able to turn this dream into a reality this coming year. We are also beginning to develop Pendula's official child protection policy with the help of the Hintalovon Foundation. We believe this collaboration is especially important for our work.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, NEWS

- ☺ We laid artificial grass in our garden playground
- ☺ V. Kulcsár Ildikó published a report on our successful and popular Sharing Circle – Parents' Club program in the Nők Lapja magazine
- ☺ We continued our collaboration with the Bárányfelhő Development and Therapy Center; their help is extremely valuable to us
- ☺ We hosted multiple kindergarten education students from ELTE, as well as Erasmus exchange students
- ☺ Instead of a kindergarten summer camp, this summer we had a Világszép Treasure Hunt day at Pendula
- ☺ We celebrated the kindergarten's 3rd birthday in October ☺



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AT LÉTRA CLUB



Évi Fodor,
workshop leader

A little girl at the Storytelling Drama Club, when asked “what was your favorite moment today?”, answered: “That I could be a star!”



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

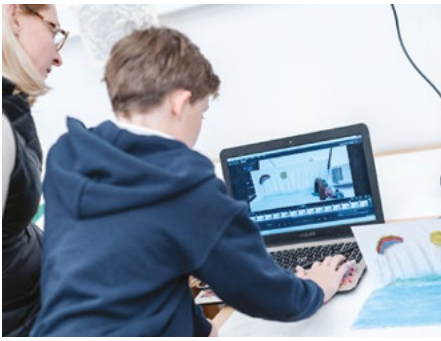
The Világshép Foundation organizes inclusive programs for children, based in experiential pedagogy. These after school programs take place at the Létra Club, offering diverse activities for children in state care together with children from families. At the beginning of this year, due to the third wave of the pandemic, our activities were limited to a minimum, but we did not give up. We couldn't organize group programs, but we didn't abandon the Világshép children in this difficult time period either. We

offered them opportunities to come out and play: the younger ones had crafts and play activities in our garden, while the older kids went hiking with us or played role-playing games in the amphitheater. Our volunteer mentors could visit the Létra Club with their mentees for individual sessions, having a quiet, comfortable place for online learning.

The Létra Club opened back up for day camps in the summer. Finally, our space was filled with life again; there were programs for dancing, story-

telling, drama, and animation. However, in the fall the regular after school programs were once again affected by the pandemic situation. We could only launch 4 groups out of 12: Design, Music for kindergarteners, Creative Dance, and Storytelling Drama. In October we started the Gastro Workshops, and in November the Family Choir. It was great to see the children reclaim the Létra Club step by step, filling it with joy and lively noise.

At our summer day camps and after school programs,



children from families and from state care become one team. In order to offer this opportunity to the Világsszép children, according to their needs and interests, we also started a few programs just for them. These are small groups where our professional

workshop leaders can pay close attention to everyone. From one of the homes we have a group of children attending an Animation workshop. Girls between 16 and 18 years of age take Jamaican Dance classes, and youth over 18 can attend Hello Life!, a monthly evening program where we cook, spend quality time together, and have conversations about various topics important to starting one's independent adult life. Our Door to the World program offers an overnight hiking trip twice a year.

Children arriving to our programs from the homes are ac-

companied by our young Létra Assistants, most of them students in various fields of social studies, enthusiastic to help us with our work. They go through an elaborate selection process and get thorough training before they are given the responsibility – and the amazing opportunity – to accompany children, and assist the workshop leaders during the after school programs.

PARENTAL FEEDBACK

"[My child] had many positive experiences, developed a lot, and spent quality time at Létra. I would prescribe this day camp for every child, and even for adults!"

"I like it that they bring out a child's creativity. She has learned how to express herself a lot better. We love this! The company is fantastic, we highly recommend this to everyone!"

NUMBERS



10

programs



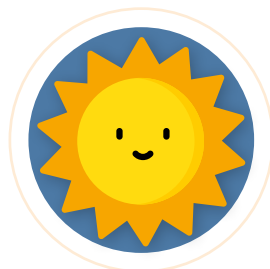
51

sessions (despite covid)



6

summer day camps



30

camp days



80

campers

THE VILÁGSZÉP FOUNDATION'S 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Ágnes Wirtz,
founder



20
Világszép youth



20
artists



630
visitors

What an incredible birthday year! We had been preparing with this anniversary exhibit for a year and a half, and looking back at it now it is starting to sink in how much we all gained from it, what a gift it was to all of us. This was the first project that really introduced the Foundation to the greater public. Our main goal was to introduce the youth we support to a wide community. I asked 20 professional artists to meet one young person each; one of the kids that we have been working with, and for, in the past 10 years. These years of experience have taught me that real help, real support is very personal. Therefore we have made a decision with the Világszép team that we don't want to expand – we want to

stay small enough that we retain our personal connection with the children. Because THEY give us all the energy we need for this work. The 20 wonderful artists reinforced this philosophy. This is probably why the project was such a success: the joy and genuineness of these personal connections shone through all the artwork. After each and every artist-youth encounter, I felt elated. Each piece of art told the simple yet powerful story about a meeting that was meaningful and impactful. Due to this, 630 people visited our exhibit in 10 days, and – almost impossible to believe – the auction of the artwork brought us 46.7 million forints! The project as a whole brought us 57.8 million forints



in donations, which is a third of our whole year's budget. After the end of the 10-day marathon project – the opening celebration with more than 130 people, the 7 guided tours, Dr. Bruce Perry's online lecture, the successful auction – I kept wondering how I can even hold all these amazing experiences inside my heart. How do I contain, how to I preserve this feeling? There were so many impactful moments: Seeing the artists' sparkling eyes at the opening celebration; seeing the Világszép youth move among them confidently, explaining "their" artwork to everyone. And our volunteers, some of them returning multiple times, introducing friends and family to the exhibit.

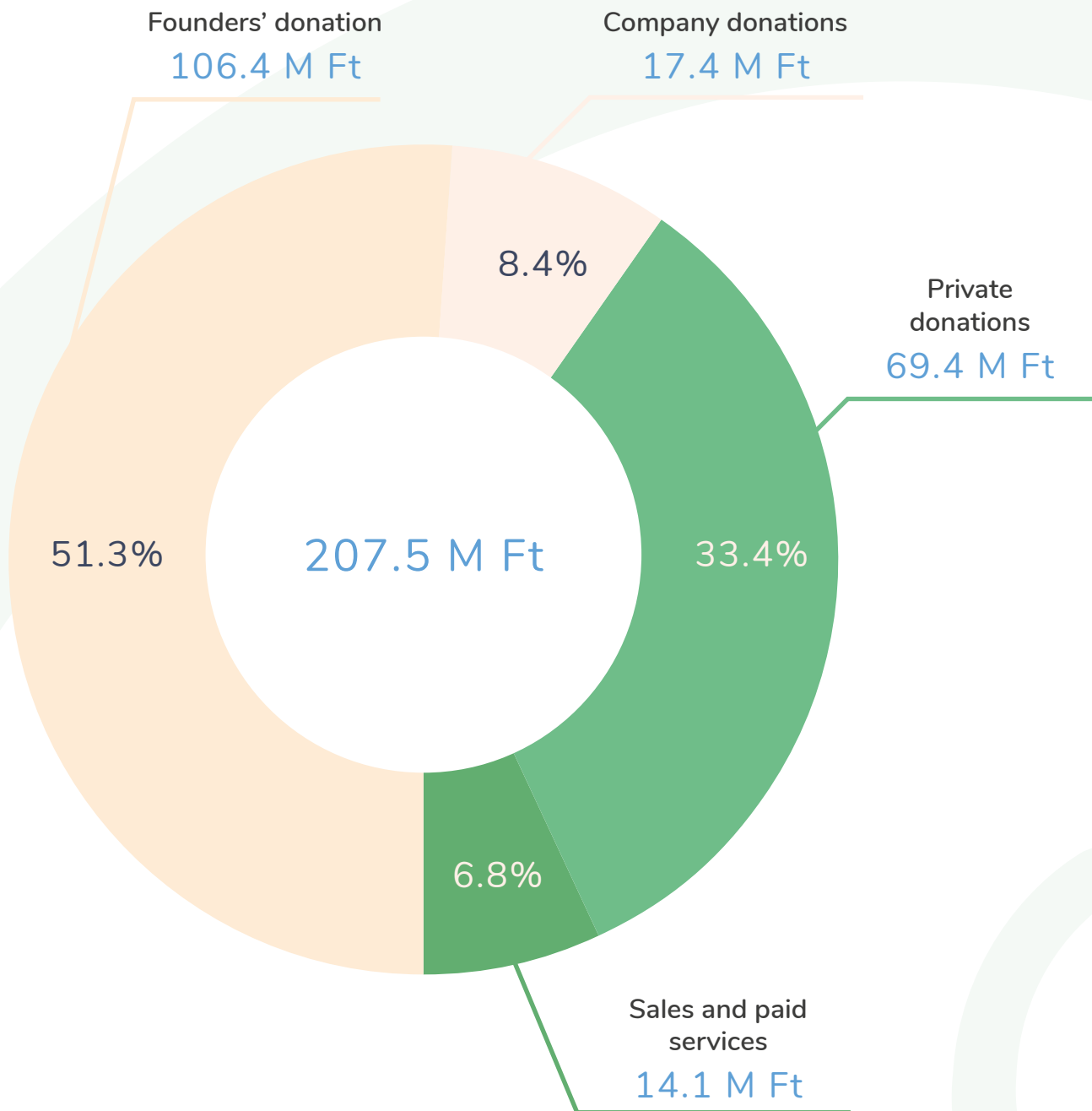
I will never forget the evening before the auction, either. 3 or 4 of our dear Világszép kids were waiting in the kitchen for the pizza to be ready, and I was putting up decorations for the next day. They were all excited, trying to guess how much money the Foundation would get from the auction. We also discussed our new dream project, a house in Budakeszi where we could offer them a place to stay in the future. Three boys were sitting in the kitchen, and suddenly one of them looked at me with wide eyes: "Ágnes, does this mean I'll have a place to live?" I had been hesitant about asking after the auction for more donations for this project, but there, in the kitchen, I felt like I was given permission to ask. For

them. I kept seeing his wide eyes in my mind, and I asked, after the auction. We received an extra 9.2 million forints for the project.

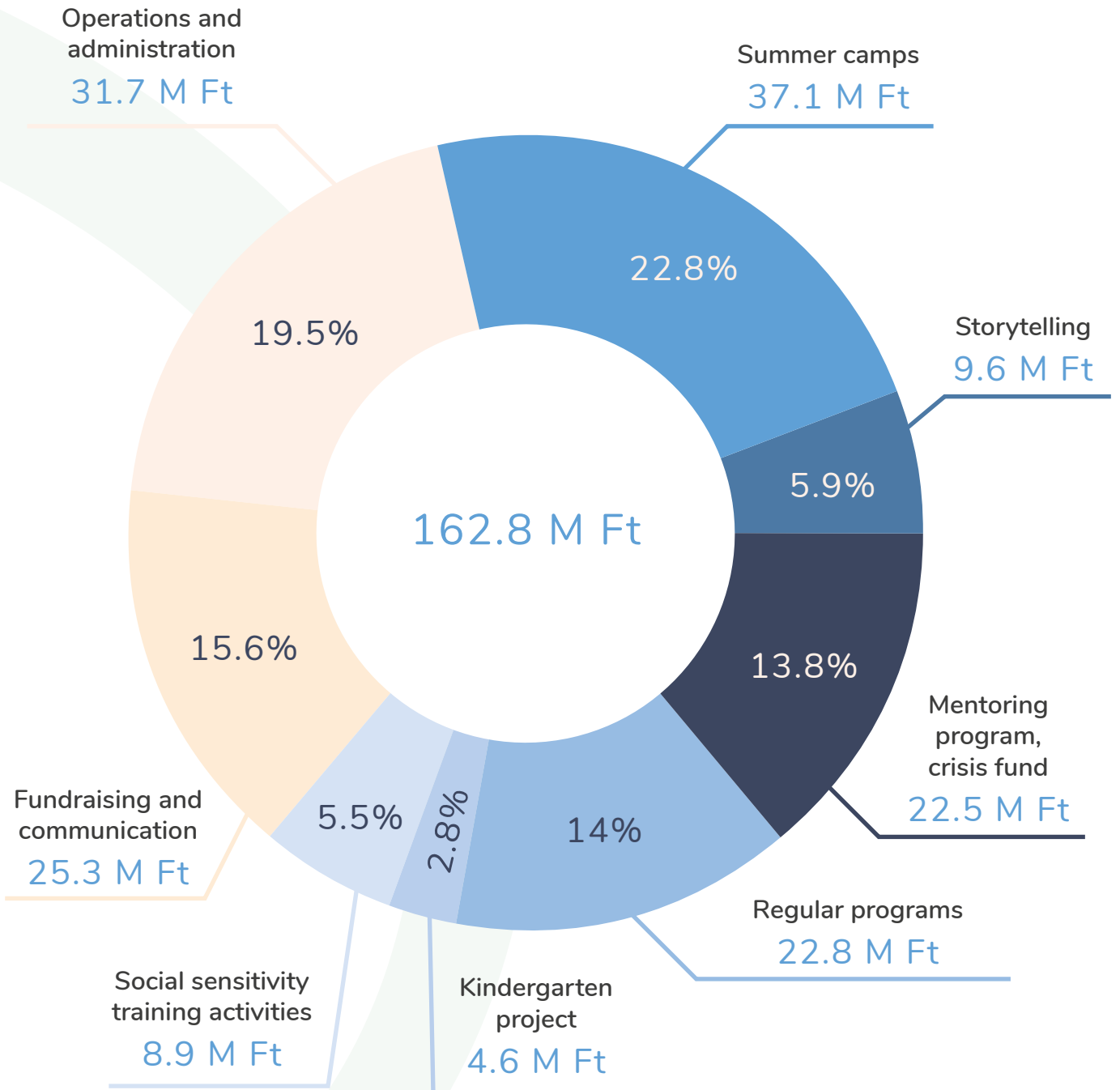
Please, accept this little booklet from us. We have left out the faces of the youth we work with for privacy reasons, but we welcome you any time at the Létra Club, where you can leaf through our yearly "family photo albums". You can look through them there, and see the joy and the smiles. And I know that those of you who met THEM at the exhibit, or other events, will always remember the Világszép youth and children. I give a heartfelt, grateful THANK YOU to EVERYONE who added their support to this project, and gave us the experience of a lifetime!



INCOME



SPENDING



DONORS

SPECIAL DONORS

Central Média csoport

 CIB BANK

LAKI

 ALAPÍTVÁNY

 BOSCH

SUPPORTERS


ADRIENNE
FELLER


chili & vanilla
- MAUTNER ZSOFI GASZTROBLOGIA -


CMS
law · tax · future

 dpd


ERSTE
Bank


HIGHVIBES

HITKAVIKTORIA


KONIASOFT


MAX
CITY
Home design
& more


PANAROM


PANNERGY

SAUSKA

SIGNAL IDUNA 


smarteq
AV SOLUTIONS with emotions

UNBOUND

VCC:Live

VILLA
BAGATELLE
BAKERY · BISTRO · SALON


WE
WÜRTH ELEKTRONIK

 WINGS
PROMOTION

PROFESSIONAL PARTNERS



WHAT WE ARE PROUD OF



HOW YOU CAN HELP



FOR INDIVIDUALS

Volunteer!

Buy gifts from us!

Become a regular donor!

Offer us your tax 1 %!

FOR COMPANIES



Donate!

Offer us your professional skills!

Support us with a percentage of your product sales!

Rent our spaces for events, or buy our team building services!



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