

Caritas Kosova



Annual Report 2016

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Who we are!

Caritas Kosova is an institution of the Catholic Church in Kosovo whose mission is to promote peace, solidarity and love amongst people. Caritas Kosova is a member of the Caritas Internationalis (CI) Federation and Caritas Europa (CE) serving and providing help for poor people regardless of their race, nationality, faith, etc. Activity of Caritas Kosova in 2016 and In accordance with its strategy was implementing the programs and projects under the 4 general operational mandates: Social and Health Assistance, Sustainable Development, Advocacy and Lobby, and the Emergency Relief & Sustainable Rehabilitation (stand-by mandate). Through its numerous activities, we strived to reach out of those in need to ease the troubles in which they live, poverty and isolation

Vision

Our vision is to strongly promote universal values, the improvement of social and economic life conditions of the Kosovar society through focused actions and care towards justice, human rights defence, social inclusion and with a prevailing attention and devotion towards people in need and the most marginalized ones.

Facing many issues in Republic of Kosova, and the biggest being unemployment (27.5%) and extreme poverty (15%) being a root of many problems in the society "As a National Caritas, we mobilize all the opportunities to provide the help to those who need it, because the human dignity and his rights are inviolable, this is God's gift guaranteed to every individual" Don Viktor Sopi.

Dear Partners and Friends of Caritas Kosova, in this annual report find the information on the activities implemented in support of the human persons in need in 2016

Dear Caritas Kosova co-workers and Praters



Caritas Kosova as a charity institution in the country corresponds with European Caritas's and neighboring Caritas's, with special emphasis on analyzing and contemplating on the situation of citizens in our country and the possibilities to be at their service.

The state in which the world has been degraded recently, where life has been associated with wild rites and unprecedented conglomerate, speaks of an ineffective functioning of the system of social values,

demonstrating disorder in almost all life processes.

Therefore, in the epicenter of its activities Caritas has the provision of human warmth and concrete work through numerous projects towards all categories of society.

The experience of not saturating with temporary goods, direct man beyond them! Man, a being qualified as **Homo Viator**, on the journey to a certain goal, as such, is in: **In Statu Viae**, in continuous development process.

During this journey man is "protected" and "commissioned" by few norms. In dialogue with his creator man reveals himself, because God enters into life by asking: "Where Are You?" (Gen. 3:9), to continue: "Where is your brother ...?" (Gen 4:9).

These existential questions encompass the concept of Caritas' responsibility, so I call the heart and mind of every Caritas employee to be human warmth and heart to their neighbor on which they are called as charitable workers.

A special thanks to all donors, especially the vigilance of the local factor, that with the social component, however little disaggregates and implements the charitable concept for the man of this place.

May the Lord Bless You!

Don Viktor Sopi - General Director

Home and Ambulatory Care

Home Care - Using the model of the German Home Care and with the support of the German Caritas, Ministries and the Municipalities, Caritas Kosova has implemented the Home Care program. This program is being implemented in the 12 municipality where the beneficiaries are the most vulnerable and lonely, sick and abandoned elderly people, those with disabilities and

mentally impaired, regardless of their faith, ethnicity, and gender. Over 1200 beneficiaries have benefited through this program receiving numerous basic services. Caritas Kosova remains the only organization that offers such service in Kosovo. "With your visit and support, my life makes sense" are the words of one elderly beneficiary in Drenas.



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Ambulatory Care - In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and Municipalities during this time period Caritas Kosova implemented the Ambulatory Care in 12 Municipalities. Through this project Caritas Kosova in cooperation with the institutional partners achieved to functionalize 86 Medical Centers in the

rural areas and villages. Engaged in this program were **85 doctors**, **24 dentists** and over **300 nursing staff** enabling the medical service to residents no further than 4 km from where they live. Both components complement one another offering unique service.

Partners: Caritas Germany, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Caritas Switzerland, Municipalities of: Ferizaj, Rahovec, Viti, Gjiilan, Mitrovicë, Hani i Elezit, Drenas, Istog, Fushë Kosovë

Battling Human Trafficking

Over 16,800 children have indirectly benefited from the trainings of teachers!

Since year 2006 Caritas Kosova is actively involved in the battle Against Trafficking in Human Beings (THB). The phenomenon of trafficking in human beings is a serious wound that has affected humankind throughout all ages, Caritas Kosova is committed to preventing this phenomenon with a special focus on children and women. There are 3 components of this program, Prevention, Awareness Raising and Successful Reintegration of the (Potential) Victims of Trafficking. In cooperation with the National Authority and as the member of the Inter-ministerial group, Caritas Kosova has implemented trainings of the elementary school staff in 3 municipalities (Ferizaj, Viti, Mitrovicë)

where over 70 teachers were trained to identify and refer to competent institution children that have signs of trafficking such as abuse, begging, and forced labor. Over 16,800 children have indirectly benefited from these trainings. Additionally Caritas Kosova completed a research on the Awareness Level of the THB phenomenon, whose results and the recommendation have been presented during the Annual Conference on Human Trafficking. Furthermore within the Reintegration process Caritas Kosova has started the implementation process for 3 beneficiaries, providing 6 months professional training, as well as distributing the humanitarian aid to 10 juvenile victims of trafficking.

Partners: Secours Catholique - Caritas France, Catholic Relief Services



Peace and Reconciliation

In the region of Mitrovica, in accordance with the economic, social and political circumstances, CK was engaged in promoting peace and interethnic reconciliation among all communities living in this region. This has been achieved through the social inclusion of marginalized groups, especially Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities, Promotion of Human Rights as well as support in terms of economic development. Through the project Social

Inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Children in Roma Mahala 60 visits have been provided aiming to enhance the improvement developmental conditions and wellbeing for 67 children of 3 to 10 years old. Additionally project has insured access to public services to most vulnerable children. Through the project Intensive Education for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities CK aims to provide better integration of communities through the in-formal education.

20 beneficiaries have completed the planned level of education and have received diplomas.





As a result 20 beneficiaries have completed the planned level of education and have received diplomas. Within the project Strengthening rural Economy and Local business Opportunities in municipality Leosaviq and Mitrovica South (SELO) whose aim is to prevent social isolation of marginalized rural groups: unemployed, women and youth; revitalization and development of rural areas of North Kosovo Region (both Serbian and Albanian ethnic communities), total of 31 farmers have benefited from the tailor made grant scheme. In addition to the grants, these farmers capacities were developed through the participation on national and regional study visits, fairs and project event. In addition to the planned activities within a program, CK has implemented numerous activities that are complementary and in conjunction with a program, such as: International

day of Charity, Volunteering, Ten Million Stars, International Day of Peace, etc. Through the National Animation Program Caritas has involved in its activities a large number of volunteers who are constantly trained and prepared to contribute to the people in need. Due to the great need for the legal framework governing volunteering, Caritas has lobbied to relevant institutions for the adoption of the law on volunteers. **In 2016: 60 volunteers were trained to carry out animation activities with young people and children; 10 parish volunteers have participated in various activities with juvenile prisoners; Over 700 children and 120 volunteers participated in special events (10 million stars and day of volunteers); 60 parish volunteers were committed to distribute humanitarian aid to poor families.**

Partner: Secours Catholique-Caritas France.

Support People with Disabilities

Vocational education in the center for hearing and speaking impaired -As in the past, Caritas Kosova is very active in making life easier for Persons with Disability. So in 2016 Caritas Kosova has provided machines for cardboard processing and offered the training for the same, in the Center for Hearing and Speaking impaired children in Prizren. This center counts around 90 children from elementary, middle and high school. In the high secondary level nine children benefited from this cardboard processing program, and have gained better opportunities to enter the job market after completion and certification.

Early Care and Education for children with disabilities (0-6 years) - CK has invested in increasing the quality of the provided services for children with autism in the center by providing capacity

building of the personnel involved. Thus, two psychologists working in our Early Care and Education Center for Disabled children attended a 3 month training in Tirana about Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA). The psychologists that completed the training have been officially certified by state and the Foundation who provided the training. Early care and education center counts 45 children with different disabilities and as well as their parents as direct beneficiary. Besides the daily activities on learning, social and physical provided in the center, one important action is children enrolment in regular school system as part of new inclusion strategy. The outcome of our commitment in 2016 is that we achieved to register eight children with disabilities in regular preschool and school program





SOCIETIES / Support of CSOs in Empowering Technical skills, Inclusion of people with disabilities and EU standarts in South East Europe - Caritas Kosova is the member among 15 other organizations from Eastern Europe and Italy that are jointly implementing project SOCIETES. First Phase of the mapping of NGO's and analyze their capacities in the field of disabilities and mental health in order to identify their needs and capacities. Caritas Kosova identified 23 active NGO's.

In December 2016, Caritas has launched call for sub-grants for the named NGO's. 4 NGO's will benefit from these grants, subsequently their clients are the end beneficiaries

In December 2016, Caritas Kosova has launched a project **"Together for the rights of disabled People"** supported by the GIZ (German Organization for International Cooperation) with conference on 3rd December marking the International Day for Persons with disability.

Partners: European Union, Caritas Innsbruck, Caritas Italiana, Caritas Czech Republic The Embassy of Czech Republic, GIZ



Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities Inclusion

200 elementary school children were supported with additional learning activities.

Caritas works intensively on developing projects to support the social inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in Kosovo society, with special emphasis on improving the social and economic welfare of these communities. Based on the socio-economic, educational and cultural situation of these communities, Caritas Kosovo has focused its activities on four main components in Education, Culture, Health and Social Assistance. Despite the intervention in many areas, these communities continue to face major problems, especially unemployment, non-inclusion, segregation, poor

infrastructure, etc. Through the Caritas Social-Educational Center in Dubrava, Ferizaj, 200 elementary school children were supported with additional learning activities. This program aims to empower the knowledge of community children, increase their activity and involvement in school, prevent abandonment and absence, and empower social relationships. In addition to supporting school subjects, 10 children have completed the English language course. **About 60 children aged 3 to 6 attended the Center for Pre-school Education.**



Within the cultural component we marked the International Day of Children. International painter Anook left his marks at the Center with portraits of children. In cooperation with Caritas volunteers, the traditional activity "10 million stars" was celebrated and information visits were organized at: Municipal Assembly in Ferizaj, House of Culture, Command of Doctrine and Training in Ferizaj, Fire Station. The center's outpatient clinic has been providing primary care services and dental services free of charge throughout the year. **In 2016, 4988 primary health services and 958 dental services were provided.**

At the Community Center managed by Caritas in Ali Ibra neighborhood in Gjakova, **140 children were provided with educational services and psycho-social activities on a daily basis.** 40 children ages 4 to 6 have attended pre-school education while 85 primary school children attended the supplementary program. In a special program was worked with

15 children who dropped out of school, in order to prepare them for returning to school.

In 2016, 40 children visited the Gjakova Police Station and marked the International Children's Day, the Day of Peace and other fests expressing their talents in reciting, drawing, dancing and writing poems. 30 young people from this neighborhood regularly participated in sports activities at the municipal level.

Within the Center are offered health services as part of the 'Home Care' project for about 60 elderly people. 115 persons aged 0-18 were vaccinated at the Center in cooperation with the Main Family Medicine Center in Gjakova.

Particular focus was given to young people who were trained and invited to various workshops for their preparation for work. **Of the 50 young people participating in this activity, 6 were employed in private companies in Gjakova.**





During 2016, the **Caritas Kosova office in Mitrovica** has developed a social inclusion project for children and young people from Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in cooperation with primary schools in North Mitrovica, institutions for the protection of children's rights, health institutions and the Center for Social Welfare and Municipal Education Authorities. The project aims to involve children in the regular education and healthcare system and ensure optimum education conditions. In this activity of Caritas 150 children and 300 parents have benefited.

The "Intensive Education" project supported by DRC and implemented in

close partnership with the Municipal Education Department and the Ministry of Education Science and Technology has provided primary education for Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities in the Roma Mahala according to the applicable law. 12 Young people supported in reading and writing through the courses have been subjected to test by the Ministry of Education and have been certified. The abovementioned have served as an example for their peers and have helped to promote the value of education for Kosovo society in general and minority communities in particular.

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Partners: Caritas Switzerland, Secours Catholique-Caritas France, Municipalities of: Ferizaj, Gjakova and Prizren, Unicef, DRC, Terres Des Hommes

Food for All

Over 500 families living in extreme poverty are supported by Caritas with food, clothing and furniture.

A lot of people have been helped in cooperation with the **Catholic Church, State Institutions and Organizations operating in Kosovo.**

This action was carried out with: Parishes, Sister's Congregations, Kitchen for the poor in Prishtina, Kindergartens, Main Family Medicine Centers (Ferizaj, Gjilan, Istog, Viti), Special Institute in Shtime, Directorate for Health and Welfare (Ferizaj, Shtirpce, Shtime, Suharekë), Sports Clubs, Center for the Protection of Children and Women

(Ferizaj, Reçak), SOS village, Association of mine-wounded civilians in Shtime, etc. Caritas project beneficiaries have been helped also through Caritas Kosova's Social and Educational Center in Dubrava and Ali Ibra neighborhood in Gjakova, Home Care Center (Drenas, Fushë Kosovë, Gjilan, Istog, Klinë, Mitrovica, Prishtina, Prizren, Viti), etc. Strategic partners are the volunteers of the German organization "Junge Leute Helfen".

In 2016 Caritas Kosova has distributed 170 tons of humanitarian aid with a monetary value of 50,000.00 €.



In accordance with the Caritas Internationalis commitment to “END HUNGER” in the world and Caritas Kosova strategy, we continued to secure food for the most vulnerable groups in the north of Kosovo specifically in the municipalities Leposaviq, Zvecan, Zubin Potok, Mitrovica, Novo Brdo and Gracanica

93 beneficiaries benefitted from this program by receiving equipment for beekeeping and agriculture. Apart from benefiting from mini-grants, beneficiaries were also taken to the joint study visit on a fair of traditional food in Belgrade, as well as numerous info-sessions and capacity building trainings.



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Partners: Caritas Belgium, The UK Embassy in Kosovo, RTM.

Beyond the Gates of Prison

Prisoners in Kosovo continue to be highly vulnerable and untreated category of the society. For the third year, Caritas has directly supported this category, in particular women and juveniles imprisoned in the Correctional Centre in Lipjan. This year, 12 women imprisoned were trained and certified, seven in hairdressing and five in tailoring. With this training and the certificate issued by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare we aim to create more opportunities for successful socio-economic reintegration after release. Sports activities were also conducted between juvenile prisoners and young volunteers

of Caritas Kosova.

To make society aware of the importance of the treatment and reintegration of prisoners, and to promote their rights, Caritas has produced the documentary film "Beyond the Gates". Three prisoners tell their extraordinary stories, experiences and dreams about the future.

At the end of the year, results of the project were presented in a closing conference. Part of the conference organized at Kino ABC, was the premiere of the film "Beyond the Gates".

12 women imprisoned were trained and certified



“ Caritas has produced the documentary film ‘Beyond the Gates’. Three prisoners tell their extraordinary stories, experiences and dreams about the future ”



Partner: Secours Catholique-Caritas France



Education of Children



As well as in the past, in 2016 Caritas Kosova was committed in providing the best possible service and the quality education in our Kindergarten in Ferizaj. Our Kindergarten delivered the child care services to over **250 children** aging

6 months - 6 years. This licensed through the Ministry of Education Science and Technology kindergarten, is one of the best kindergartens in Kosovo, occupying the space of over 1000m² and being equipped with the adequate furniture

Partner: Municipality of Ferizaj





International conference "Social Economy: European Perspective for the Development of Territories and Communities"

Social Economy

Caritas Kosova continuously promotes the social economy as an innovative approach and an efficient mechanism to reduce poverty and to support social inclusion and employment.

ELBA (Emergency Labor in Balkans) is an initiative designed to respond to the economic crisis in Southeast Europe. Members of this project are: Kosovo, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Montenegro, Serbia and Macedonia. Social economy is recognized as a way to engage and empower the entire society, the public sector as well as the private sector, from the for-profit organization to non-for-profit organizations, from territories to communities, to develop a new economic model that involves people in Need as an active source of society.

At the final meeting of the first phase of the project organized in Prishtina was held the workshop: "From the ELBA 1 experience to ideas of ELBA 2" and the international conference "Social Economy: European Perspective for the Development of Territories and Communities". In these two events about 50 participants from the Region and Europe have introduced social economy models from their respective countries.

Caritas Kosova has financially supported and has established three social enterprises that have employed 10 full-time employees. Social Enterprise We do it 4 you provide cleaning and day care services, La Text is a tailoring salon and Made for You is a gift shop.

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Partners: Italian Episcopal Conference and Caritas Italiana

Emergency Intervention

In July 2016 Caritas Kosova attended the annual meeting within the frame of the SEECEG (South East Europe Caritas Emergency Group). Meeting was hosted by Caritas Poland and was organized by Caritas Europa.

The aim of the annual meetings is the continuous update from member organization on emergency and

rehabilitation action taken in respective year as well as common action in emergency relief.

Every year a chairman for the group is being elected for a one year mandate. Currently Caritas Kosova representative is holding the chairman position for SEECEG.



*"Caritas Kosova representative
is holding the chairman
position for SEECEG."*

Annual Budget**2,361,889.77 €**

Home and Ambulatory Care

1,294,887.01 €

Battling Human Trafficking

51,732.48 €

Peace and Reconciliation

93,975.00 €

Support People with Disabilities

109,474.86 €

Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities Inclusion

225,855.64 €

Food for All

200,409.84 €

Beyond the Gates of Prison

29,580.00 €

Education of Children

232,793.00 €

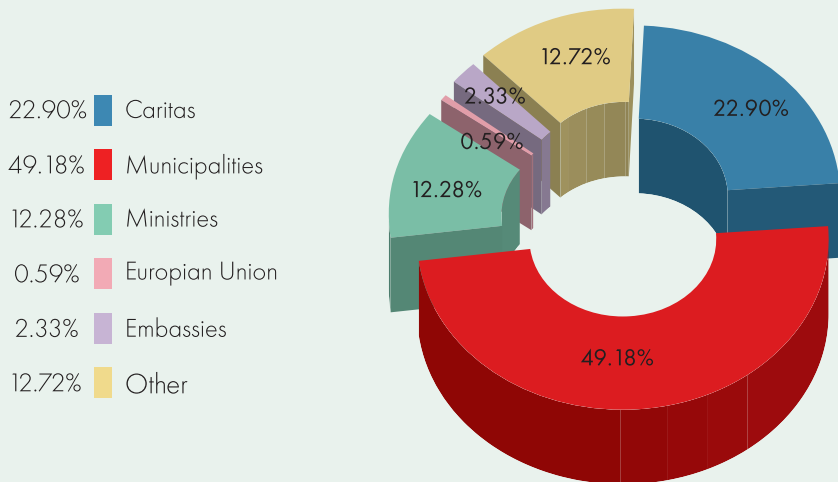
Social Economy

32,664.82 €

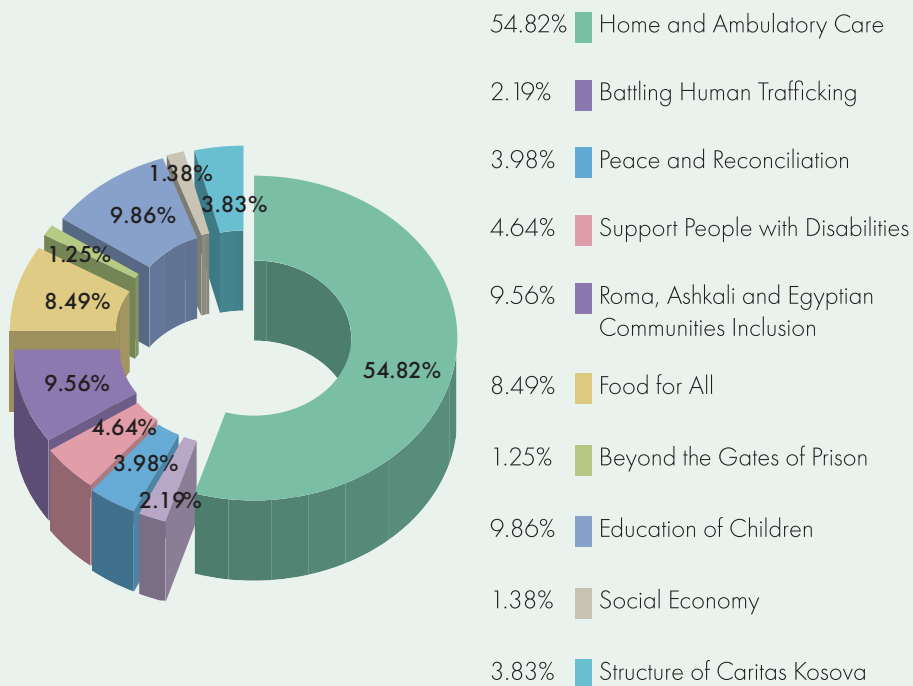
Structure of Caritas Kosova

90,517.12 €

Percentage by Donors



Percentage by Programs



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