

The Center for Philanthropy - Year 2009 in a Nutshell

The Center for Philanthropy n.o. (CpF) **was established** in 2002 as a nonprofit organisation, providing public benefit services based on the Act no. 213/97 Coll. It was registered by the Bratislava Regional Authority in the register of nonprofit organisations with the no. OVVS-530/49/2002-NO. The founders are Boris Strečanský, Zuzana Thullnerová and Marcel Dávid Zajac.

The aim of The Center for Philanthropy is to strengthen nonprofit non-governmental organisations and their status in the society through its activities, services and programs, to spread the values and models of philanthropy, charitable giving and volunteering, which are an expression of mutual solidarity and understanding among citizens themselves or the public and private sector, further support the ideas of participatory democracy and support the participation of citizens on decision-making processes of public interest.

Our **mission** is the development of philanthropy and civil society.

We advise how to donate to donors - foundations, nonprofits, corporations or individuals wishing to donate their money, time, energy or skills to help people who need it.

We help them find their way in a topic which they wish to promote, suggest a way they can help most effectively and evolve the given field.

We are helping to reallocate funds in a manner as clear as possible, with clearly defined terms and conditions. The results on grant approvals are publicly available on our website as well as on the websites of our partners.

In addition to supporting nonprofit organizations, active citizens or municipalities, we also offer interesting information, insights and ideas to think about issues of civic engagement and philanthropy for the public and business sector, professionals, students and politicians.

We contribute to discussions on creating an appropriate legal giving and civil society development.

We promote good practices in activities and management of foundations and corporate philanthropy.

We're linking together different environments and help mutual understanding and cooperation in the implementation of public benefit goals.

We are supporting the social development mostly through open grant programs. The most important aspects of them are openness, transparency and accessibility.

The Center provides the following services to donors:

1. Management, governance or participating in administration and management of grant schemes and development programs.
2. Educational, organizational and information services in the field of preparation, implementation, management and evaluation of grant and development programs.
3. Creating a philanthropic charity strategy and a social responsibility program, according to the strategy and priorities of the donor.
4. Creating interesting philanthropic and charitable projects and their management and administration.
5. Help with the reallocation of the 2% tax assignment of a company.
6. Assistance in establishing corporate foundations or endowment funds, managing their activities and the creation and realisation of charitable programs.

In 2009, we have continued with enthusiasm in our work and have supported 1 717 individuals and organizations that submitted their projects to 40 grant programs, which have been evaluated by 212 external assessors, by the total amount of 3 019 477 €.

Activities of CpF in 2009

1. **Development of Corporate Giving in Slovakia** in cooperation with Konto Orange n.f./Foundation Orange, Foundation SPP, Tatra Banka Foundation and EkoFond n.f..
2. **Community activities support through received 2% tax assignment** in cooperation with Siemens s.r.o. and Baumit s.r.o..
3. We have participated in the creation of a **new internet portal www.ludialudom.sk**, focused on supporting and promoting philanthropy through internet.
6. **Cpf awards the best diploma thesis or concerning the issue of philanthropy** and publishes the best works in an anthology.
7. We have participated in the project of the **European Centre for Non-Profit Law (ECNL, Budapest)**, which aimed to explore the possibilities of sustainability of human rights and watchdog NGOs.
8. Preparation of the annual **list of the biggest foundations** in Slovakia.

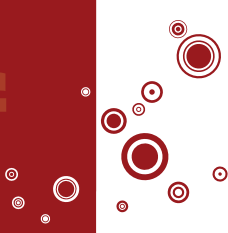
Partner	Grant programs	Registered project proposals	Supported projects	Total amount of support (EURO)	Evaluators
Konto Orange/Foundation Orange	10	1 855	605	663 450,00 €	114
Foundation SPP	10	906	392	2 838 966,00 €	32
Tatra Banka Foundation	11	359	165	916 249,00 €	26
EkoFond, n. f.	6	1 346	474	1 394 149,41 €	28
Baumit, spol. s r. o.	1	105	28	40 291,00 €	9
Siemens, s. r. o.	2	94	53	53 383,00 €	3
Together:	40	4 665	1 717	3 019 477,41 €	212

We would like to thank all our donors and partners for their support, generosity and expressed trust.

- Baumit, spol. r. o.,
- East-West Management Institute, New York
- EkoFond, n. f.
- European Center for Not-for-Profit Law, Budapest
- Institute for Sustainable Communities, Skopje
- Foundation Orange/Konto Orange, n. f.
- Nadácia otvorenej spoločnosti - Open Society Foundation
- Foundation SPP
- Tatra Banka Foundation
- Foundation Via, Praha
- Siemens, s. r. o.
- Siemens Program and System Engineering, s. r. o.
- Trust for Civil Society in Central and Eastern Europe, Warsaw

We consider it important to maintain and develop relations with similar organizations such as ours, in the wider region of Central Europe, with a view to sharing their experiences and reflections. Therefore, we are the co-founders and members of several initiatives:

- We cooperate with our partners in **DEMIJOHN** - virtual regional think-tank for the civil society covering Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.
- We are the co-founders (with SK-NIC, a.s.) of a non-profit organization **4People, n. o.**, which focuses on research, development, scientific and technical services and information services through the operation of an Internet portal www.ludialudom.sk, to support and promote philanthropy and in the interest of the Internet community.
- In the year 2009 we participated in the project of the **European Centre for Not-For-Profit Law (ECNL, Budapest)**, which aimed to explore the possibilities of sustainability of human rights and watchdog NGOs in the ten new EU member states.
- We participate in the work of the Independent **Monitoring Team for EU funds**, which brings together representatives of NGOs dealing with the use of EU funds and their public co-financing and regional policy. (http://www.eufondy.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=25&Itemid=116)
- The CPF chairman of the Board is a member of the **Government Council for NGOs**. The Council is an advisory and initiative body of the Slovak republic Government to support the activities of NGOs. (<http://www.mensiny.vlada.gov.sk/index.php?ID=6601>)
- We participated in establishing the **Slovak Centre for Fundraising**, whose mission is to develop professional fundraising (raising funds) and financing public and private activities, NGOs, public and private institutions and civic initiatives at home and abroad. (www.fundraising.sk)
- We are a member of the Worldwide Initiatives for Grantmaker Support (WINGS). WINGS is a global network of more than 140 member associations and support organizations serving grantmakers to come together to create opportunities for mutual learning and support, develop mutual cooperation and contribute to the strengthening of philanthropy on a global scale. Boris Strečanský is a member of the Advisory Committee, which gives a view of Central and Eastern Europe on issues of community foundations and community philanthropy. (www.wingsweb.org)



Our aim is to develop these areas by means of our partners' GRANT PROGRAMS:

I. Education development and enhancement

1. **Change of teaching methods at elementary schools** – we support active and initiative elementary school teachers who are determined to change attitudes to pupils during lessons, who want to teach in more interesting, creative and inventive ways.
2. **Skills development of secondary school students** – we assist secondary school students in creating their own projects focused on various themes; thus helping them to develop their life skills. Program is focused on environmental issues, voluntariness, and support of school media or employing of students' ideas during lessons.
3. **Supporting university students' education** – we help students to overcome the limits of their schools and educational system so they can participate in creation of their own education and specialization in their field of interest. It is an opportunity to win grant for realization of one's own projects, which are either scientific or practical in nature and which enable to promote one's own expertise.
4. **Scholarship program for university students** – we support fellowships of university students abroad. Within the program we started activities of Brainies club, which provides activities such as outdoor experience training, course of project management or opportunity to win grant for one's own university.
5. **Supporting economic and management colleges** – it benefits the quality of teaching of particular subjects, themes or fields of education.
6. **Supporting post gradual students of economic colleges** – scholarships for full time PhD students from Slovak economic and management colleges.

II. Development and protection of cultural values and leisure activities

1. **Supporting leisure activities based on "peer to peer" principle** – we support cultural events, sport activities, informal education of youth and voluntary activities for community benefit.
2. **Supporting national cultural heritage** – reconstruction of national cultural heritage across Slovakia.
3. **Supporting construction of multifunctional playgrounds** – building of playgrounds across Slovakia according to EU standards.

III. Support of disadvantaged groups of people

1. **Scholarship for disadvantaged students of secondary schools and universities** – for students with medical handicap to enable them to study at secondary school or university according their choice. Scholarship helps them to eliminate barriers, which they encounter on daily basis.
2. **Leisure program for disadvantaged people** creates various possibilities for spending leisure time.
3. **Program focused on improving quality of life of socially disadvantaged people** – we support model, innovative and progressive approaches to improving quality of life of people with medical handicap, victims of domestic violence or otherwise socially disadvantaged people.
4. **Converging of majority with minorities, and minorities with each other** – supporting of self-help activities.
5. **Improving the position of women in society** – we support organizations and individuals, who focus on women issues and change their position in society.

IV. Field of charity and philanthropic activities

1. **We help people in difficult life and social situation** via volunteers with big heart open to requirements of those in need. It is mainly help to lonely elderly people, ill and handicapped people, children in hospitals, foster homes, poor families, people who lost someone and homeless people.
2. **Employment grant programs** are designated to the employees of our corporate partners. Programs focus on supporting the employees who are active in their community and engage in volunteer activities benefiting the public.
3. **Support of public donation** – it is realized on matching principle, i.e. after collecting of certain amount of money we contribute with the same amount.
4. **Support of people in need** – program for economically and socially disadvantaged people.
5. **Support of people affected by natural disaster.**



V. Support and development of local regions

1. **Development of local regions** – we support active and initiative citizens who create projects focused on improving quality of life of people in local regions of Slovakia.
2. **Grant program “We like it here, we want to live here”** – idea of this program is that people who care about the world around them and who want to change it have opportunity to get financial help for their designs.
3. **Community activities, community philanthropy** – support for people who are engaged in their community and participate in development of community donorship.

VI. Protection of environment

1. **Support of education in environment management for local governments and environmental activists.**
2. **We support purchase and installation of progressive technologies for combined production of electric energy, heat and cold on the basis of natural gas** – co-generation and tri-generation units that are saving environment.
3. **Improvement of energetic properties of buildings** – we support replacement of windows, supplementary thermal insulation of and regulation of heating systems in public buildings, but also in apartment and family houses.
4. **We support development and utilization of alternative motor fuel CNG** (compressed natural gas) in Slovak public transport; thus we want to decrease emissions of harmful substances from transport into atmosphere.
5. **We support research and development of innovative technologies on the basis of natural gas** and pilot projects of their implementation.
6. **Contribution for a new boiler** – the aim of the project was to support installation of new, energetically efficient condensation boilers running on natural gas and thus contribute to protection of environment by ecological disposal of old boilers.

Our PUBLIC EDUCATION, DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES focus on actively increasing the familiarity of public about culture of donorship in Slovakia and abroad:

- I. We consider public education in the field of philanthropy and civil engagement as our key role.

Every year we organize Discussion panel about philanthropy – by forms of public discussions, round tables and we try to open the issue of philanthropy for expert and lay public.

Since 2006 **we award best diploma thesis or seminal work concerning issue of philanthropy** and we publish the best works in the anthology.

- II. We realize also our own research activities focusing on civil society and philanthropy.

We consider it necessary to reflect the development in these fields and to create space for deeper contemplation about issues of philanthropy, civil society and non profit organizations.

- III. Monitoring of legal and tax framework for civil society.

We monitor development in legislative concerning civil gatherings, as well as tax and overall supporting environment for civil society and we respond to eventual proposals by participation in work groups, public activities (articles) or civil organizing.

- IV. Support of community foundations concept

Since 1995 several of us are personally involved in the issue of developing of community foundations. Community foundations are fastest growing form of organized philanthropy in present and in global merit. It is based on the idea that for someone to be a donor and philanthropic, s/he does not have to be a millionaire. Also people with modest means can be initiative, help improve life around them and thus strengthen the trust among people.