

Hungarian Interchurch Aid is a member of the **actalliance**

Annual Report 2016



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Introduction

Similarly to previous years, priority in 2016 was also given to creating opportunities in our activities in Hungary. Apart from providing temporary assistance, operation of our institutions, our national programs and developments were all driven by the intention to offer real chances to break out of poverty for children and families stuck in the vicious circle of the social welfare system.

As a part of the international community we continued our aid program in Ukraine thus providing support to IDPs fleeing the fighting and those in need because of the economic crisis as a result of the war, focusing on Zakarpattia region. A permanent representation was opened in Northern Iraq to help vulnerable people through continuous on-site presence. We finished our rehabilitation and flood protection program that had started after the floods in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia in 2014. In Haiti we assisted hurricane victims, and implemented a new food aid program in Afghanistan.

The effective assistance that reached thousands of people was made possible by the strengthening community of donors, partners and volunteers. The strength obtained from these joint efforts gives us the power to continue and makes us feel grateful when we look back over the past year.

Thank you!

people reached in Hungary staff members 30. billion ft

Our activities in numbers

2016 in a nutshell

January - Our large-scale aid program continued in 10 regions of Ukraine. We delivered foodstuffs, hygiene kits, winter fuel and household items to more than 50 thousand people in the frame of international collaboration.

February - We put great emphasis on health-conscious education in our institutions: a salt-room was handed over in the temporary family shelter in Szolnok.

March - Our aid program to support victims of the devastating 2014 Balkan floods ended. We contributed to rehabilitation with aid activities in a total value of more than HUF 150 million.

April - 25th Anniversary of HIA's foundation was celebrated in a large-scale meeting attended by staff-members, volunteers, donors and representatives of our partners. Magyar Posta Ltd. issued a unique stamp for the jubilee event.

May - One-month fundraising and program series were launched under the title 'Carefree childhood'. The campaign intended to direct the attention of the public to HIA's whole year's work that provides regular support to more than 1500 children.

June - Another location for HIA's child development program: our development program in Kaposvár focuses on the youngest age-group (0-3 years old children) in a district where most disadvantaged families live.

July - Summer camp was organized at lake Balaton. Children living in temporary family shelters spent unforgettable days in two turns in Balatongyörök thanks to the fundraising titled Carefree childhood.

August - Starting the school together – Tangible assistance for the start of the school year. Enrolment of more than 1000 needy children was supported again through provision of quality school supplies from the fundraising campaign announced for the fifth time.

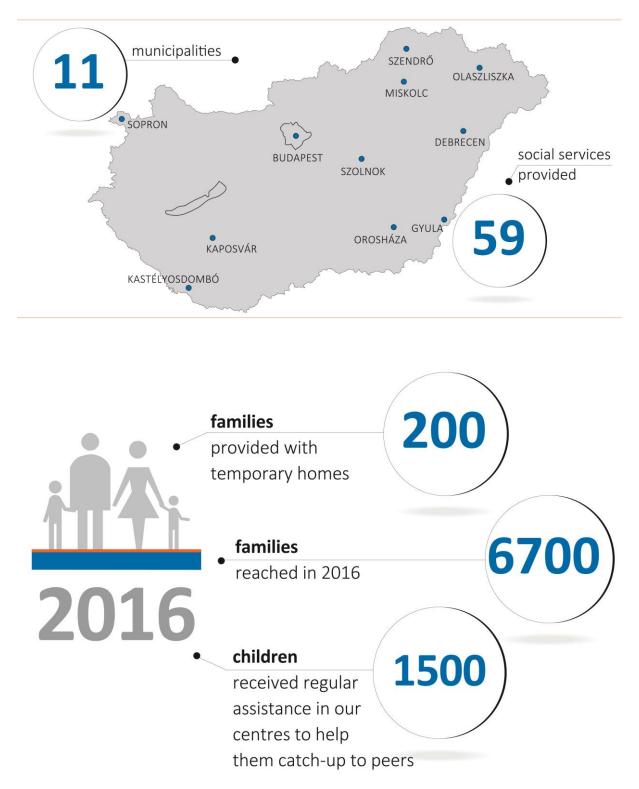
September - Permanent humanitarian representation was opened in Erbil, Northern-Iraq. We provide assistance to those fleeing the war, Christians and other minorities through our continuous presence in the field.

October - Our crisis centre in Miskolc turned 10 years old. On the occasion of the anniversary of the centre that gives shelter to parents and children escaping from abuse, a professional day was held where we summarized experiences of the last 10 years.

November - Recognize when something is wrong! It was the motto of our social campaign launched again against Intimate Partner Violence. The campaign intended to draw the attention to the fact that if we recognize signs of IPV on time and act accordingly, we can prevent tragedies.

December - hunger.love. The fundraising campaign announced for the 21st time this Advent ended with great success again. 800.000 individuals joined the country's largest festive collaboration.





Assistance to families and children

Assistance to families in crisis

A separate institution – HIA's National Aid Centre – managed the individual requests arriving to the organisation during 2016 as well. The centre was able to help – mainly through in-kind assistance – in more than 6700 cases but other clients were also informed by our staff members on what kind of assistance they are entitled to through the state welfare system.

Children's development

Children's development and promotion of their catch-up were given priority in 2016 as well: more than 1500 children took part regularly in our development programs. Our various development activities (hippo therapy, movement therapy, adventure programs, coaching, creative occupations, special educational and psychological services) and personalized development plans give change a chance. A new centre has been opened in Kaposvár, several summer camps were organized for vulnerable children, school supplies were provided to 1000 children throughout the country to promote their school-start – only a few data from regular activities of our 8 social centres involved in assistance to children.

Way out of poverty: We maintain temporary shelters for families that had lost their homes in 5 towns (Budapest, Kastélyosdombó, Miskolc, Orosháza, Szolnok). These institutions allow families to stay together and help them move forward.

Our *model program in Kastélyosdombó* continued in 2016: families moving into the special temporary family shelter acquire agricultural and animal husbandry knowledge and then – breaking out of their dependence on the state welfare system – they may start an independent new life in houses provided by HIA. During the 3 years of the model program 5 large families were already given the opportunity to move out from the temporary shelter into a so-called "Life-changing" house where they could start their new lives under the help of mentors.

New program has been launched in Kaposvár: creation of opportunities is a priority issue in our activities in this city as well. The child-development work, being an integral part of our complex activities, starts with support to the youngest ones: we promote catch-up of disadvantaged children by the help of regular development activities.



Assistance to the homeless

1000 homeless received regular assistance

Our organization has been maintaining homeless care centres in three cities in 2016: in Budapest, Debrecen and Gyula. In addition to the possibility to warm up, bathe and eat, our institutions offered much more: personalized help and counselling in official matters, job-search; a chance to reintegrate into society. The street and micro-regional outreach services provided regular assistance not only to people living in the streets but also to those living in the farmlands, or seeking shelter in the outskirts of towns in tent-like makeshift huts. Apart from daily food distributions more than 10 000 portions of hot meals were given to the needy during the Advent distributions in 2016 as well.



Assistance to addicts

Our centres provided comprehensive help to addicts at four locations of the country (Budapest, Debrecen, Kastélyosdombó and Szolnok)

An important but rarely highlighted field in creation of equal opportunities is when we try to help someone to get rid of his/her addiction.

Our program "Breaking the drug-cycle" ended. The two-year international program implemented from EU funds mainly focused on analysis of paraphernalia used by IDUs (intravenous drug users) in several regions of Hungary. Within the above activities, the ISEC project, carried out in international cooperation, included a systematic survey of a large number of markedly dangerous designer drugs.

Our program called 'Game with limits' continued. Within the framework of the program we draw young people's attention to the dangers of gambling addiction in a playful but meaningful way in Martfű, Miskolc, Olaszliszka and Szolnok.



Support to job-seekers

The biggest job-seekers' assistance program so far ended in 2016. In the framework of the program called 'Help that feels good' by Soproni, our staff members held more than 4300 counselling sessions and almost 750 job-seekers were involved in the long-term counselling process including 3-12 complex development occasions. During these sessions personalized help was provided to those who turned to us: our experts helped them free of charge in lifelong guidance, writing applications, they conducted test interviews, held psychological consultations, and developed clients' job-search competencies.

Support to job-seekers also continued in our temporary shelters.



Assistance to victims of abuse

In 2016 we paid special attention to victims of intimate partner violence. Our Protected Shelter provided housing and shelter for 56 families – mothers and children fleeing from violence; parents and children escaping from abuse were also received in crisis centres of three temporary family shelters maintained by HIA. Laying great emphasis on prevention, a national campaign titled 'Recognize it' was launched to provide practical assistance to youngsters, parents and children in how to notice signs of abuse on time and to inform them where they can turn to for help.



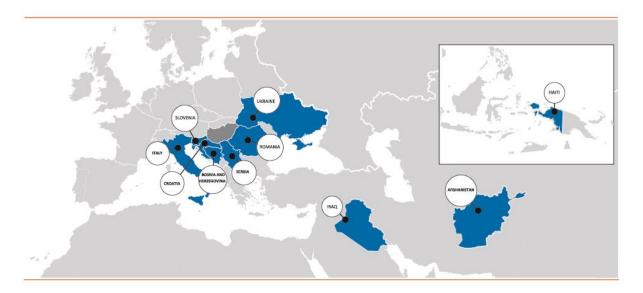
Assistance in emergencies – The migration crisis

Our program that was launched to address the migration crisis evolved in 2015 continued in 2016. We held activities for children once per week in Bicske and Vámosszabadi with the participation of 5 social workers at each location. From July 2015 until June 2016 more than 1300 children were involved in our program. From August 2016 children activities were held twice per week for the large number of families arriving to the Kiskunhalas reception centre. From September three local teachers and our social worker led activity sessions for children 5 times per week including occasional excursions at weekends. Following the needs assessment seasonal clothes were also donated to those in need, and our 4-5 interpreters provided information to those staying in the camp.

In addition to the above our staff members were also present in the transit zones – Röszke and Tompa – where they distributed foodstuffs, hygiene items for those waiting there and our interpreters provided information in Arabic and Farsi languages to those who intended to apply for asylum.



International activities – 2016



In 2016, we also provided assistance in several crisis zones: permanent representation has been opened in Northern-Iraq, our earlier started program in Ukraine continued, and we were also involved in the assistance following the hurricane in Haiti and the earthquake in Italy. Apart from humanitarian programs, our rehabilitation work that started in the Balkans following the 2014 floods came to an end. Our projects in Zakarpattia region, Transylvania and Afghanistan continued.

Afghanistan: Large-scale food aid program was implemented by HIA for the third time in the frame of the UN World Food Program (WFP). Thanks to the international action more than 15000 individuals received essential foodstuffs in 2016.

the Balkans: Further phase of our international humanitarian aid program, started after the 2014 floods in Bosnia-Herzegovina, was implemented in Sarajevo. Following the immediate response to flood victims' needs, the new program targeted development and prevention. The 100 million HUF project financed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade realized reconstruction of 405 meters' section of a stream bed in Novi Grad district of Sarajevo.

Transylvania: In 2016 we also provided assistance to orphans and residents of the local elderly home in Târgu Mureş. 150 school kits were donated to disadvantaged students, non-perishable foodstuffs and Christmas gift parcels were delivered to the needy ones during the Advent season.

Northern-Iraq: Permanent representation was opened in Erbil. We intend to assist those fleeing the war with special regard to Christian and other minority families.

Haiti: Immediate fundraising was launched to support victims of the hurricane that hit Haiti in October. HUF 1 200 000 raised through the collection were used to assist victims living in seriously damaged areas through the Britain-based NGO Christian Aid. The assistance targeted improvement of housing and hygiene conditions and better livelihood of people: this amount contributed to reconstruction of 22 private houses (providing home for 600 people) in the port of Les Cayes and the city of Aquin.

Italy: We launched fundraising after the earthquake that struck Central Italy in August. We contributed to restoring housing conditions of victims living in disaster-hit areas in cooperation with our international partners.

Ukraine: Since 2014 we have been involved in care for IDPS at several locations and have provided assistance (foodstuffs, hygienic kits, household tools, baby care packages) to more than 50 thousand IDPs so far in 10 regions of Ukraine. A separate program was organized to assist children and pregnant women. In addition to psycho-social assistance we reconstructed 150 houses in Eastern-Ukraine. Our program in Zakarpattia region also continued: elderly living under difficult conditions and large families facing difficulties due to military service of the breadwinner were assisted in Beregovo district.



Social solidarity

In addition to providing regular information on HIA's activities and feedback to donators, three scheduled and two extraordinary fundraising were announced to support our activities in 2016.

Apart from the traditional relief action called 'Starting the school together' and the <u>love.hunger</u> campaign during the Advent season which has become the country's biggest festive collaboration, we organized the 'Carefree childhood' fundraising and program series for the third time. Social collaboration was also invited for the benefit of victims of the Haiti hurricane and earthquake in Italy in addition to the scheduled collections.

We also launched awareness raising social campaign for prevention purposes: laying much emphasis on prevention of intimate partner violence and child abuse, a national campaign titled 'Recognize it' was organized to provide practical assistance to parents and children in how to notice signs of abuse on time and to inform them where they can turn to for help.



Volunteering



Volunteering is one of the core values of our organization: in 2016 more than 500 volunteers assisted our work. Special attention was paid to addressing children and young adults. Experts of our organization held lectures, sessions, and awareness raising programs in educational institutions, summer camps, and at festivals several times in 2016. We have also ensured training and preparing of candidates who wished to volunteer for HIA. In addition to this, regular meetings were held with volunteers in order to keep them and increase their commitment.

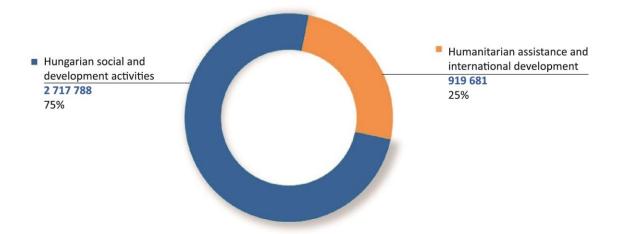


In 2016 HIA also formed its charity running team: the runners lining up at the starting mark with the slogan 'Do not only cheer but help!' direct fans' attention to HIA's objectives and try to turn more and more fans into active supporters. HIA represented itself through its running team at the K&H half-marathon, WizzAir half-marathon, and at IRONMAN 70.3. HIA also organized a charity running race in Zakarpattia: runners of the Beregovo Charity Half-marathon drew the attention of the public to the organisation's local activities.

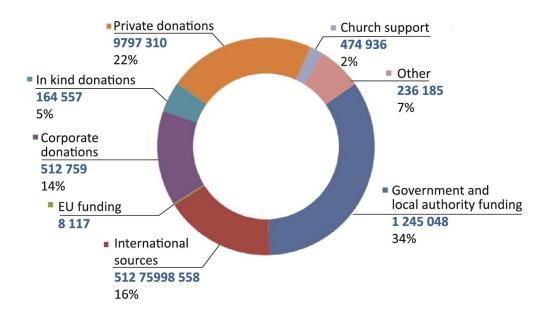


Financial data

Revenues by supported area (in thousand HUF)



Breakdown of revenues per source (in thousand HUF)



Breakdown of expenses per activity area (in thousand HUF)

