



CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale
Annual Report 2022

Our Mission

CONCORDIA is an international, independent, nongovernmental organization dedicated to supporting children, young people and families in need, towards a more independent and responsible life. We go where the need is the greatest. And where others do not go.

Our Core Values



Four core values (Heart Connection, Commitment, Courage, Chances) embed and convey the CONCORDIA spirit throughout our work with the most vulnerable children, young people and their families.

Our programmes focus on strengthening and respecting children's rights. As an organization that cares for children and young people, we have an ethical responsibility and obligation to ensure that children's rights are implemented in our facilities, and above all, that they are not violated.

We seek individual solutions for children, young people, and their families.
Most importantly, we do not give up on anyone.





Dear partners and friends,

“Find the sweetness in your own heart, then you may find the sweetness in every heart.” Rumi
This exquisite wisdom by the Persian scholar Rumi has been an inspiration to the board members, staff and volunteers of Concordia. In the face of multiple crises, it was necessary for our entire team and those of the broader Concordia community to pay attention to the energy and love in our hearts to be able to help others compassionately and effectively.

Since its inception in 1991, CONCORDIA has focused on children, young people, and their families. The psychosocial effects of traumatizing experiences of poverty and violence require a high degree of attentiveness, understanding and confidence-building interventions. One of our priorities in 2022 was to therefore strengthen child protection services and develop the skills of our staff to manage trauma in children and adolescents.

In our core programmes, we intensified our family-strengthening support activities in the CONCORDIA day centres. Our day centres are safe hubs for children from the poorest communities. Parents are supported to improve their living conditions and gain access to social services, vocational training and job coaching. Often the underlying problem is not a lack of parental care, but the daily struggle for survival in which entire families are stuck for generations.

Our commitment is based on the conviction that every child has the potential and the right to spread their wings and realize their dreams. Together, we remain steadfast in the face of adversity and are committed to breaking down barriers and opening doors so children and young people can live self-determined lives without exclusion.

As the CONCORDIA Board of Directors, we would like to thank you once again for your active help and your trust! Please continue to accompany us on this path of the heart to bring healing and love to those most in need.

With gratitude,

Bernhard Drumel
Member of the board

Thomas Birtel
Chairman of the board

Ulla Konrad
Member of the board

Pater Markus Inama SJ
Member of the board



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I find it terrifying that in the heart of Europe, there are still countries where half of the children are at risk of existential poverty.

For many years, CONCORDIA has been giving a hand where the need is greatest. We will advance this mission with all our strength.

No child should be left behind.

Bernhard Drumel
Chairman of the Board of
CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale
Kosovo



Dear children, colleagues, and partners,

The second year of CONCORDIA in Kosovo was full of successes and intensive work from everyone involved, the children themselves, their families, and the staff, that have pulled in the same direction and have proved to be a strong team.

In short, the year 2022 can be described as the “growth and further professionalism” of the support provided to the most vulnerable children, youngsters, and families in the Municipality of Prizren. The planned organizational structure was achieved by employing a second teacher, a nurse, a second social worker, and a project officer. This provided us the ground to start diversifying the services and the target groups. Based on several manuals developed, we initiated new services such as the Women’s Support Group, Parent School, and Vocational Counselling. In the middle of the year, after conducting a Social Needs Assessment in The Municipality of Prizren to identify the rural communities with a larger number of vulnerable families, we started the work of the Mobile Team (a multidisciplinary team supporting families in rural areas, in their homes). In February we signed a two years Partnership Agreement with the mayor of the Municipality of Prizren, Mr. Shaqir Totaj, that intensified the collaboration with the Centre for Social Work in Prizren.

A highlight of the year is that children and youngsters of the CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra and CONCORDIA Tranzit Band proudly performed in October at the children’s concert organized by CONCORDIA in Vienna, in front of a large audience of CONCORDIA supporters, colleagues, representatives of other NGOs and companies.

As a CONCORDIA Kosovo team, we are proud of our achievements and even prouder when our successes are recognized! CONCORDIA Kosovo received the INTERCULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2022, category Innovation, from the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs.

I thank you all, dear partners, colleagues, children, and supporters, for your commitment and heart connection!



Mirela LAVRIC
Executive Director
CONCORDIA Kosovo

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "M. Lavric".



Country statistics

- Around 18% of Kosovo's population lives below the poverty line (EUR 45 per month as defined by the World Bank), with 5.1% percent of the population below the extreme poverty line. Children from poor households, socially vulnerable communities, and those with special needs lack equal access to vital health and education services due to financial barriers;
- Nearly 23% of children in Kosovo live in poverty, and 7% live in extreme poverty (UNICEF Kosovo Programme, Annual Report 2022);
- Children of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities, children with disabilities, and young girls are seriously deprived and live under dramatically poor and difficult conditions;
- Around 9% of children are involved in child labor, of whom 5.6% working under hazardous conditions, an issue being particularly evident among the Roma and Ashkali communities.





CONCORDIA at International Level



Our experience has been built over 30 years of work in the social field in Romania and later, CONCORDIA opened national organisations in the Republic of Moldova, Bulgaria, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, and the Republic of Kosovo.

CONCORDIA

Two Years of Activity in Kosovo



CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale (CONCORDIA Kosovo) was established as an International Kosovar organisation in December 2020.

Starting in January 2021, we run a social and educational program in Prizren, the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre, for children families, young people, and families of the Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian, as well as for other families in need in the Municipality of Prizren.

CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre runs a school support program with homework support, extra lessons, early childhood education for children aged 3 to 6, music classes, craft workshops, social and psychological counseling for children, young people, and their families, vocational counseling, and health support.

Parents and families meet regularly for exchanges, training, and support, and specific interventions are dedicated to parents, such as the Woman Support Group and Parent's School.

Our services are in close cooperation with the responsible local authorities based on a partnership agreement signed in February 2021 with the Municipality of Prizren.

Facts and Figures

10 women took part in the Women's Support Group;
10 parents took part in the Parent's School;
10 young people took part in the Vocational Counselling;
90 portions of food cooked on average per day;
93.18% of children were satisfied with the services;
80% of parents were satisfied with the services;
97.6% of children were transferred to the next grade in school.



5 children registered in Loyola (3 in primary school and 2 in gymnasium) receive scholarships;

6 high school students receive support for transportation food, school supplies, clothes, uniforms;

5 children were registered in the civil registry.

83 children received school supplies on monthly bases as they need in school or in Tranzit Centre;

45 families received food packages 3 times during the year;

5 families with babies are supported with necessary products every month;

100 children received winter jackets, boots, and clothes;

3 other families received emergency support;

4 families were supported in obtaining their social rights.



2022: CONCORDIA Kosovo



Facts and Figures

KOSOVO

CHILD CARE
 COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS
 EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING
 EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL BUSINESS
 EMPOWERMENT
 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

PROJECT NAME	LOCATION	SINCE	CHILD CARE	COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS	EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING	EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL BUSINESS	EMPOWERMENT	EMERGENCY RESPONSE
CONCORDIA Transit Day Centre	Prizren	2021	204	97				
Outreach work	Prizren	2022	79					
Vocational Counselling	Prizren	2022		10	5			
Women's Support Group	Prizren	2022					10	
Parent's school	Prizren	2022					10	
Music classes	Prizren	2021		50				
Early childhood education	Prizren	2021	19	30				
			0	302	187	5	20	0
TOTAL NUMBER			514					
HEADS			442					

Our Main Projects

Under the umbrella of the program CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre, several projects started to take shape and differentiate during the year. As such, the following projects are implemented: Day Centre, Mobile team - outreach work in the Municipality of Prizren, Vocational Counselling, Women's Support Group, Parent's School, Music classes, and Early Childhood Education.

1. CONCORDIA Tranzit Day Centre



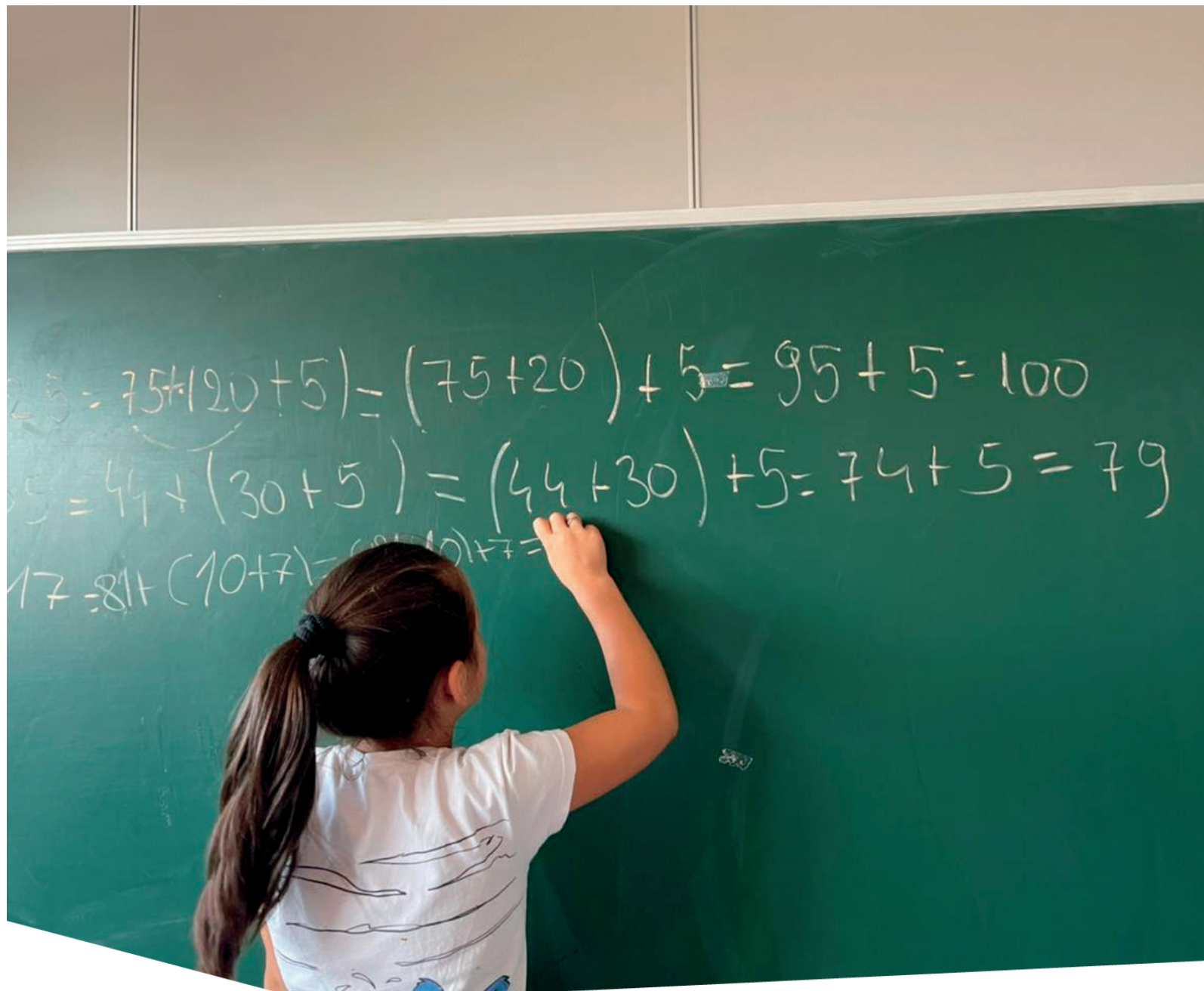
For various reasons, families may fail to fulfilling their obligations. In the Tranzit Day Centre, we are supporting children in their development and families in exercising their protection functions.

Children have access to healthy and well-balanced nutrition; educational support by providing tutoring, school supplies, clothing, and transportation when needed; leisure activities as sports, art, and excursions; health support and health education, and psychological counseling.

The services offered by the day Centre for children are complementary to the efforts of their own families, as they arise from parental obligations and responsibilities, as well as services provided by schools and other service providers, according to the individual needs of the child in his socio-family context.

In parallel with supporting children, we are involving parents to consolidate their parental resources with individual or group social and psychological counseling.





Children from other neighborhoods started to come to the Centre, some of them not yet registered to school according to their age.

At the beginning of the year, the entire multidisciplinary team was recruited, adding the health support component by having a nurse. A second teacher and a second social worker have been recruited in the team to deepen the educational and social support for the children and their families. Applying a case management approach, children and their families are evaluated, and social, psychological, educational, and health objectives are established, thus, enlarging the interventions for the children from only school support and homework to multidimensional support where the entire family is included.

At the end of December, 105 children and young people from 44 families were enrolled in the activities in the Transit Day Centre: 22 in early childhood education, 83 coming for homework before or after school. Additional 7 children not registered to school have been supported with reading and writing classes, while actions for setting-up catch-up classes in Prizren have been initiated with the Directorate for Education.

This year we had our first experience implementing a grant awarded by the Council of Europe Pristina, under the Call for Proposals for “Support to civil society to better network at regional level to counter hate speech and hate crime in the Western Balkans” Project. Several activities were implemented to increase awareness of children, young people, and women from Suhareka and Prizren about their rights.

Among these, the following events took place:

- two concerts in the cities of Suhareka and Prizren by CONCORDIA Tranzit orchestra;
- two vocational trips where youngsters were given a chance to get a first-hand insight into the way companies from Pristina and Prizren operate, such as bakeries, restaurants, and manufacturing companies.

This was also a great opportunity to better understand why education is important and what other preconditions are required to get a job in the business world;

- a one-day excursion to Pristina was organized for women, members of CONCORDIA Women's Support Group. Most of them traveled to the capital for the first time. In addition to sightseeing, they had a chance to visit the National Gallery of Kosovo and the Government building;
- disa aktivitete në zonat rurale të Piranës dhe Zhurrit me moton “Afër furgonit CONCORDIA”, ku fëmijët e familjeve më të varfra morën pjesë në aktivitete të shumta, si lojëra edukative, koncerte, diskutime për të drejtat e tyre dhe rëndësinë e arsimit, etj.

Schools from these areas provided assistance in organizing these activities;

Two excursions for children registered in the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre as rewards for their good results either at school or regarding their behavior in the Centre:

- one excursion has been organized for the smaller children from the Tranzit early childhood education program (2 – 6 y.o.) at the playground of Abi Çarshia Mall in Prizren; and
- another for youth, at Bjeshka (Mountain) Prizren.





Photovoltaic Energy- Green Safety

The world is going through a transition of energy, going from coal-fired power plants to the green energy and inexhaustible energy that the sun produces. We are proud and happy with the investment in the photovoltaic system that equipped the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre building in November! This investment was possible with the great support provided by MENSCHEN FÜR ANDERE, Jesuitenweltweit, under the project “Power for good!”

Our activities will no longer be hindered by interruptions in the supply of electricity because of the battery included in the system and will also have reduced costs of the energy bills by at least 90%.

We will breathe cleaner air in the neighborhood using solar energy instead of another kind of traditional fuel and children learn about preserving the environment and smart usage of the utilities.



Psychological and Social Counselling



- Following the psychological assessment, the psychologist provides individual or group sessions to children and youth targeting their emotional well-being. Parents are also supported to face family challenges caused by poverty associated with other factors like domestic violence, difficulties to find jobs, or early marriages and pregnancies. Seven children were consulted by the psychiatrist and due to their diagnosis, they received medical treatment to be combined with psychological support.
- With the support of PEMA NGO, 2 children are getting speech therapy sessions every Friday.
- In partnership with Diakonie NGO, monthly sessions were organised for seven youths and young adults.
- Social counselling provided by the two social workers refers to a systematic and programmed process of providing information, advice and guidance aimed at helping an individual or a family to improve their social or interpersonal circumstances. Families were supported to obtain their social rights like invalidity allowance, disability support for their children, even registration of their children in the civil register, that were not registered even few years after their birth.

Health Support and Health Education



Starting as of January 2022 we added to the team a nurse. Health support proved to be a big need for children and their families, considering the poor medical system in the country, without health insurance coverage, as well as limited resources of the parents.

The nurse completed a medical diagnosis for 97 children registered to CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre and 22 of them are under the supervision and specialized treatment and investigations for different health support while 22 children are on a daily basis supervised for their hygiene (their clothes are washed in Centre, they are taking showers and brush their teeth on daily basis). A campaign to vaccinate children without the complete scheme of vaccination has been organized with the public medical service.

Monthly workshops about hygiene, health, and healthy nutrition are organized by the nurse for the children and youth. Women are also invited periodically to learn about the health aspects of their children and of themselves.

Children's Parliament



On 17th May new elections have been organized for the Children's Parliament and four new leaders have been elected by the children, two for those in primary school and two for those in secondary school.

At least once in a month, the Children's Parliament organized thematic meetings with the occasion of the day of children's rights, education day, Earth day, Roma day, etc.

A family Story



A Poverty...

A reality of B. family- confronting poverty which is a complex and nuanced stage.

A family with 27 members of three generations lives in extreme poverty, in a rented four rooms house, that barrenly you can call a house, due to very poor and bad hygienic and sanitary conditions.

For B. family, poverty is a constant struggle that wears you down – something that hampers your ability to do the things that most people do without even thinking. Having to skip meals for her family, worrying about whether she could pay her rent, and not affording the cost of heating and lighting are just some of the struggles Mrs. A. B. grappled with as she was raising her children and grandchildren. The family does not benefit from any social schemes and/ or allowances.



...A Reality

The family's only income comes from begging on the street .

Out of all the children of B. family, only two of them are coming regularly to Transit Day Centre. E. B. 11 yrs.(son) and A. T. 9 yrs. (granddaughter) were registered to school with the support of CONCORDIA, receiving education, clothing, health, transportation to school, homework, courses, and all activities organized by CONCORDIA Transit Centre.

The other two older children never registered for school, are taught to read and write in the Transit Centre, until one of the schools will be organized catch-up classes.

2. Mobile Team



Outreach work in the Municipality of Prizren

Building on a concept of preventive and responsive integrated social services – health, education, and social protection – delivered at the community level, directly to children, young people, and families, in the second half of the year we expanded the support to families living in the rural areas of the Municipality of Prizren.

The professionals of CONCORDIA Transit Centre, social workers, nurse, psychologist, and teachers, are acting as a mobile team providing outreach work in the most vulnerable areas of the municipality. The main goal of the outreach work is to identify a sustainable way of strengthening the families most in need and enabling them to look after their children, preventing child abuse and neglect, early school drop-out, and early marriages.

By doing this, our team's long-term mission is to break the circle of poverty and support the most marginalised children, young people, families, and communities of the Prizren area.

A Social Needs Assessment has been conducted in the period February – May to assess the entire area of Municipality of Prizren and to identify areas with the highest number of children, young people and families most affected by poverty and/or associated vulnerabilities are living.

Two rural areas, Pirana and Zhur, have been mapped as having families facing different vulnerabilities and not having access to the services they need. Therefore, 10 families are now supported by the mobile team (21 adults and 58 children).

The mobile team professionals travel on average twice a week to work and support these families in their homes or accompany them for specialized medical support, containing their social rights and benefits, registering children for school, etc.

For launching the results of the Social Needs Assessment, a conference has been organized in Prizren on the 31st of May.

At the event participated the most important municipality representatives, altogether with the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers, the Ministry of Education, and NGOs, among them the Mayor of Municipality of Prizren, the general director of the municipality Directorate for Labor and social welfare, the heads of the Centre's for Social Work from Prizren and Suhareka, the director of the Department for Social Policy and families of the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers, directors of the education and health directorates of Prizren Municipality, CONCORDIA International representatives and many others, altogether there were 45 participants. Mass media was present at the event, including the TV Prizren.



The realization of the Social Needs Assessment and the entire work of the program CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre was included in the Partnership Agreement signed on the 15th of February with the Municipality of Prizren, through its Mayor Mr. Shaqir Totaj. The Partnership Agreement ensures the collaboration and the joint effort for a positive long-term impact on the citizens of the Municipality of Prizren.



In April, the first application for Kosovar public funds was developed and won. The application was submitted within the call for proposals of the Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers for a social scheme (Measure 3.4) to support the most vulnerable families with food packages. 498 food packages for families from the Municipality of Suhareka and Municipality of Prizren were purchased and disseminated, valuing 22,410.00 EUR.



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The sense of our being together is to bring people who want to help and those who need help into contact with one another and to create a network that ensures cohesion in our society and far beyond.

**P. Markus Inama SJ
Member of the Board**

3. Women's Support Group



CONCORDIA pays special attention to the vulnerable marginalized group in the country, such as women. A manual for detailing the activities of the Women's Support Group has been developed by the team and in January the first meeting of the twelve total meetings over the year has been organised with the first group of ten women.

The aim of this project is to guide the participants (women, mothers, or sisters of the children registered in the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre) to discover abilities and skills they already have, how to further strengthen their abilities, how to identify their life interests and empower them during their own chosen pathway. All of these, work parallelly through safety and life stability, and emotional (overall) well-being. This project intends to understand the real needs of women from marginalized communities of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians, and their inner motivation.



All of these, work parallelly through safety and life stability, and emotional (overall) well-being. This project intends to understand the real needs of women from marginalized communities of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptians, and their inner motivation. All women need help to gather information from these activities for better use in the future in their homes and in their lives in general.

The 10 women that took part in the first Support Group went through twelve modules during the year, one module per month, covering diverse topics such as personal understanding and emotional exploration, determination and set life goals, conflict, and negative emotions management, women's rights, etc. At the end of the year, the participants were celebrated and rewarded with attendance certificates.



On the 15th of November, we were honored to be received by Mrs. Country President Vjosa Osmani and to present to her the work of CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale for the most vulnerable children, young people and parents in the Municipality of Prizren. At this meeting took part women from the Women's Support Group as well as all female members of the CONCORDIA Kosovo team. A first-day excursion for the participants of the Women's Support Group to Pristina was organized on the 6th of October. „Enlarge our knowledge and perspectives“ was the key message of this activity aiming to offer the participants an experience of knowledge, relaxation, and treatment with dignity. Most of them traveled to Pristina for the first time and were impressed by the city, the National Museum of Kosovo, the Government building, the movie they saw in a cinema for the first time, and the lunch they had in a very nice restaurant. The Women's Support Group activities were particularly supported through a grant provided by Land Vorarlberg Austria, the project: "Empowering Women of Kosovo (EWOKOS).



Intercultural Achievement Award



CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale received the INTERCULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2022, category Innovation for its work aiming to the empowerment of women and girls of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian communities in the Municipality of Prizren. The Intercultural Achievement Award (IAA) is a key project of the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs.

The award honours successful and innovative civil society projects in the field of intercultural and interreligious dialogue, both in Austria and on a global scale.

We have been honoured to receive the award from H.E. Christoph Weidinger, Austrian Ambassador in Pristina during an event organised at his residence.

At the event were present H.E. Jörn Rohde, German Ambassador in Pristina, the Mayor of the Municipality of Prizren, Mr. Shaqir Totaj, Mrs. Mimoza Gavrani, Activist for the RAE Community Rights, Mrs. Gresa Abrashi from Austrian Development Agency, Dr. Bernhard Drumel, President of the Association CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale Kosovo, Mrs. Mirela Lavric, the Executive Director of CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale and other important guests.



4. Vocational Counseling



Vocational counseling is the process through which a person (child, youth, or adult) receives information and support so that she/he can make realistic choices about her/his future in terms of education, career, and personal goals. It is an ongoing support process that helps people discover options and make decisions that promote their development throughout their lives.

We initiated this type of program to support our beneficiaries to overcome these frequent problems they encounter:

- fears and conflicts related to finishing school and choosing a career path;
- not knowing what to do with their lives if they drop out of the formal educational system;
- scarce and poorly publicized information regarding educational and job opportunities;
- lack of knowledge about occupations that exist, their most important characteristics, the education, training and skills required, career paths, and salaries offered;
- insufficient job search skills.

The most important goal of vocational counseling is to contribute to the holistic development of children and young people, supporting their transition to the world of work and decision-making as they strive for continuous improvement throughout their lives. It can also help children and youth better define their dreams and interests and the importance of staying in school and participating in the life of their communities.



The Vocational counselling manual was finalized and the first group of ten adolescents and young people went through twelve modules. Among this group, there are two subgroups, one of youth from 14 to 16 y.o and another with young people beyond 16 y.o.

While for the first subgroup, the focus was put on the continuation of the education and identifying potential career paths, for the other subgroup the support was provided based on individual situations: either registering to school to continue the education, either to vocational training or to find appropriate jobs.

In March, a first meeting has been organized with the topic “Letters for the future” aiming to understand the wishes and projections of the youth regarding their professional path and what they have to do in order to achieve that goal.

One young person, a single father of two small children coming to Tranzit centre, has been supported to register to catch up on high school classes. For him and for two Tranzit young co-workers have submitted applications to Teach for Kosovo NGO for obtaining scholarships and all 3 applications have been accepted.

Six young women have been supported to register for vocational training and as job seekers. Two “vocational trips” were organized with the young people in the Vocational counselling group, during 2022. In order to understand the opportunities education provides, what are the potential jobs, and how to enter the labor market, various businesses located in Prizren and Pristina were visited.



A Success Story

Eliza: She is studying law and her dream is to be a successful lawyer to help children and women in need.



Eliza is 16 years old and she is in 2nd year in High School, studying law. She dreams of being a successful lawyer to help children and women in need.

Eliza is living with her mother, grandfather, one of her brothers, and his wife. Her mother isn't working and her father is in Slovenia. She has two other siblings, one brother that lives with his family in Slovenia, the same as the father, and one sister who is married.

Last year Eliza had some problems and she wanted to drop out the school. She didn't go to school for 1 month and was at risk to repeat the school year or be suspended because of many absences. With CONCORDIA's consistent, multidisciplinary approach and with the involvement of teachers from the high school as well as Eliza's mother, she was ready to return to school.

Although she didn't have marks for all courses, with the support of her teacher, she didn't repeat the school year, but she passed all the exams instead, due to the support she received by CONCORDIA staff.

#Now Eliza is one of the best students in her class and was chosen to continue the practice to the Basic Court of Prizren for one year. Of the 35 candidates just 5 were chosen and of these 5, one of them is Eliza. She is so excited and also her family is so thankful to CONCORDIA that helping her to continue the school.

On a daily basis, she is coming to our Centre to do her homework and get prepared for school.

Eliza is also taking part in music classes, she plays violin and she is part of the CONCORDIA Tranzit orchestra.

5. Parent's School



CONCORDIA aims to raise awareness and empower parents by engaging them in education and personal development so, that they can be role models for their children, as well as teach them to become better parents.

Parent's School is a set of activities and methods that support parents/caregivers to develop skills and knowledge to provide care, feeding, protection, and education to their children.

We strengthen parenting skills to foster:

- respectful and loving interactions between parents and children;
- encouragement and opportunities to learn for parents and children;
- sharing and helping among parents and children;
- protection from physical danger, adequate nutrition, and health care.

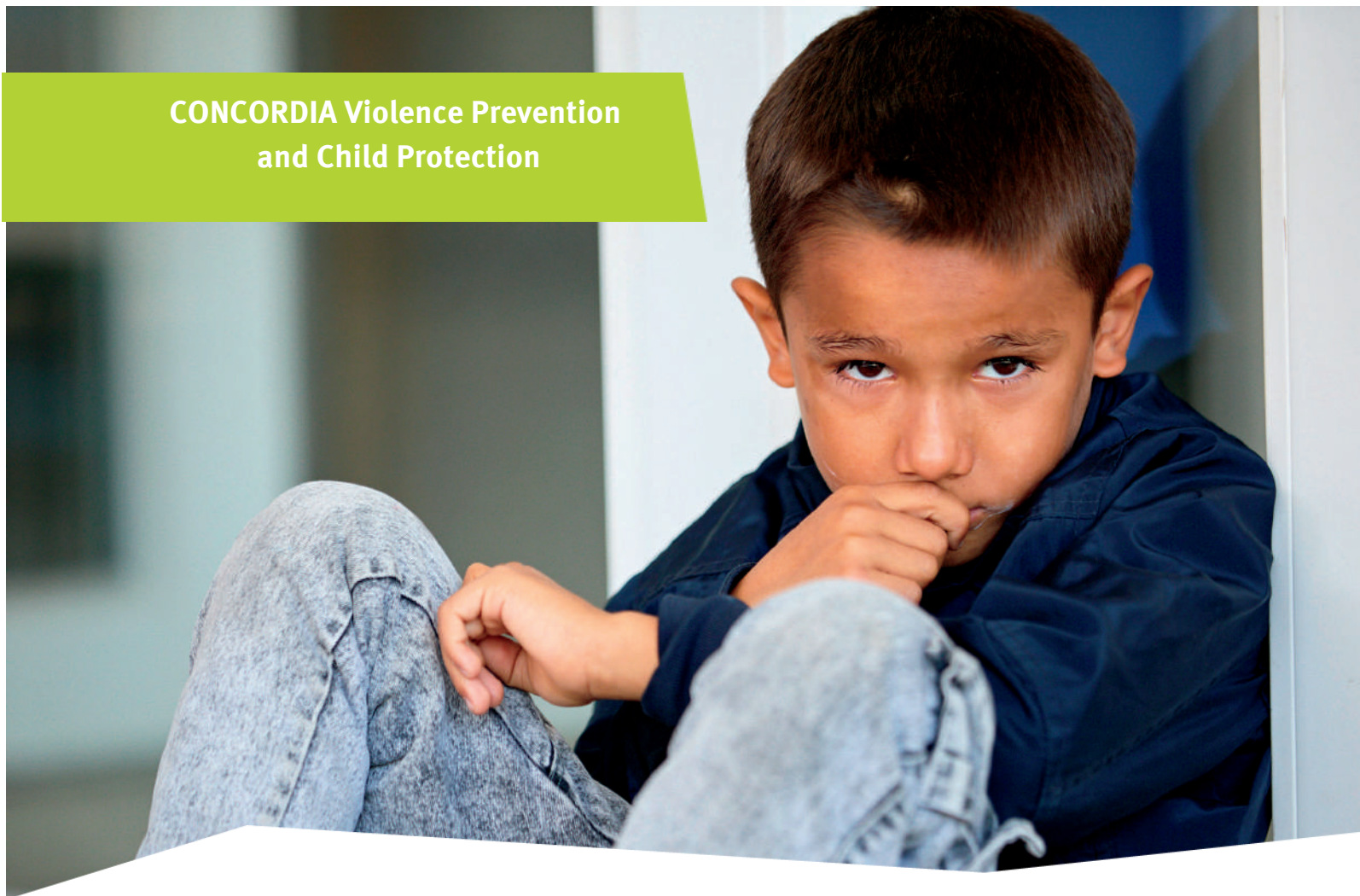
A manual for organising the Parent's School has been developed as well, and the first module of the ten parents registered was organised in March. By the end of the year, twelve modules have been conducted and in December the participants were awarded an attendance certificate.



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M.B. (Teacher): I work at CONCORDIA since March 2022. During this time, I have gained great knowledge and experience. CONCORDIA has always supported me in various educational trainings that have helped me to develop professionally. It supports every activity or idea that I want to do with children. I am very happy that I am part of CONCORDIA.

CONCORDIA Violence Prevention and Child Protection



**We do our best to ensure
the protection of children**

As an organisation that cares for children and young people, we have a responsibility and obligation to ensure that children's rights are implemented in our facilities and, above all, that they are not violated. In our programmes we work with children and young people with special protection needs. In order to ensure their safety, we rely on various measures within and without CONCORDIA.

These include protection from physical, psychological and sexual violence, from neglect and also from witnessing domestic or partner violence. Children who have to witness violence can be hindered in their social, emotional and societal development. Domestic violence and child abuse unfortunately often remain invisible and are still taboo subjects.

Mostly, children cannot tell anyone that they have experienced violence. They are ashamed, confused or afraid that their family will break up. Children depend on adults for support. That is why we continuously carry out prevention measures by offering low threshold help and creating awareness around violence prevention and child protection.

6. Music school



Music transcends language and cultural barriers and helps students broaden their horizons, increase their general knowledge and develop an understanding of the world, people, and cultures. Learning music requires discipline, patience, and tenacity to succeed, qualities required for children to succeed later in life.

Playing in the orchestra improves children's social skills because they learn to work in a team, collaborate and adjust to their peers.

For some children music has therapeutic value, helping hyperactive or depressed children, and for others gives them a job avenue later on in life.

Children were taking part in eight music instrument classes: 10 in violin, 7 in cello, 7 in piano, 6 in saxophone, 6 in clarinet, 6 in flute and 7 in guitar and bass guitar, and 2 in drums. Additionally, 10 children are taking part in the choir lessons.

There are 30 children and young people members of the CONCORDIA Tranzit orchestra and 5 young males in the CONCORDIA Tranzit band.

An average number of 2300 hours of music classes were dedicated to children and youth in 2022.

Labinot, supported by CONCORDIA and previously our collaborator, was accepted as a student at the Faculty of Music, University of Pristina thus, voluntarily he teaches drums during summer vacations.

Twelve concerts have been organized during the year in the Tranzit Centre for parents or guests, as well as in other settings like in Loyola Gymnasium, in “Galleria” shopping mall, in Suhareka city, in the city Centre of Prizren and with the occasion of organizing the conference for launching the Social Needs Assessment report.

A first solo concert has been organized, where children prepared and performed solo performances in front of their parents. They experienced a lot of emotions being alone on the stage, but soon after the performances, they felt very proud and motivated.

During the summer vacation, 17 children took part in a two weeks summer camp organized by Loyola Gymnasium, where music lessons were provided by British and Kosovar musicians.



On the 10th of October, the orchestra, the band, and the percussionists performed at the main fundraising event of CONCORDIA, organized in Vienna, in the concert hall of the Raiffeisen building. Children from the oldest CONCORDIA country, Romania, and ones from the newest country, Kosovo, performed in front of a large audience of CONCORDIA supporters.

With the support of the music conductors from Romania and Kosovo, a mixt group of Romanian and Kosovar children and young people performed a very nice artistic moment playing drums and shakers aiming to promote the core values of CONCORDIA.



The Vita Activa Foundation supports the music school, with the great generosity and support of Mrs. Helga Herneth.





7. Early Childhood Education



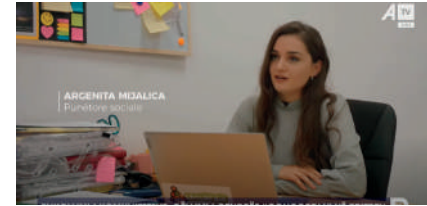
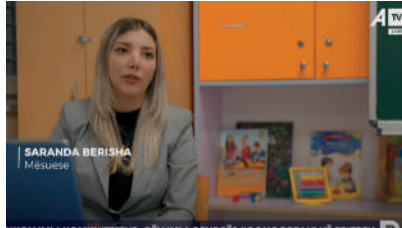
When children are healthy, safe, and learning well in their early years, they are better able to reach their full developmental potential as adults and participate effectively in economic, social, and civic life.

During the year, 49 children aged 2 to 6 y.o. went through early childhood education at the CONCORDIA Tranzit Centre. Two groups, one nursery and one for preschool children, functioned the entire year, including during the summer, starting 08.30 to 15.00

The preschool group follows the accredited curriculum of the Ministry of Education. Children receive a snack and a warm meal per day and those from the nursery are taking a nap after the lunch. Games, excursions, and outdoor activities are organized periodically to stimulate their knowledge and development, while clothing is provided for all.



Mass-Media



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News

Promoting equality among families and children from marginalised groups in Kosovo*

PRISTINA | DECEMBER 2022

NGO CONCORDIA from Kosovo completed numerous activities aimed at increasing awareness of children, young people and women from cities of Suhrerka and Prizren about their rights. The project was supported by the European Union and the Council of Europe, through the framework of the action on 'Promotion of diversity and equality in Kosovo'.

Variety of activities was organised for youngsters, from concerts in cities of Suhrerka and Prizren delivered by CONCORDIA transit orchestra to activities of CONCORDIA mobile teams, comprised of psychologists, social workers, nurses and teachers, in rural areas. These activities involved direct work with the poorest families as well as numerous activities with children, such as educational games, concerts, discussions about their rights and importance of education, etc. Schools from these areas provided assistance in organising these activities.

A peak in these activities was undoubtedly a concert in Vienna performed by children from the oldest CONCORDIA country Romania and the youngest one, Kosovo, with a network of CONCORDIA supporters, representatives of civil society organisations as well as businesses acting as audience. This trip was a reward for their commitment to education and undoubtedly opened their minds to continue education. In total, 28 children and youth took part in this activity, as part of the CONCORDIA Transit orchestra.

Young people were also one of key target groups, participating in two vocational trips. They were given a chance to get a first-hand insight into the way companies from Pristina and Prizren, such as Bakeries, restaurants, manufacturing companies, located in Pristina and Prizren operate. This was also a great opportunity to better understand why education is important and what other preconditions are required to get a job in the business world.

Finally, a one-day excursion to Pristina was organised for women, members of CONCORDIA women's support group. Most of them travelled to the capital for the first time. In addition to sightseeing, they had a chance to visit the National Gallery of Kosovo and Government building.

The grant scheme through which these activities are funded, was launched under the action on 'Promotion of diversity and equality in Kosovo', part of the joint European Union and the Council of Europe programme 'Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey 2019-2022'.

*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE PORTAL



On the 31st of May, with the occasion of the Conference for launching the Social Needs Assessment Report on the Municipality of Prizren, mass-media was present at the event, including the TV Prizren;

On 12th of May, the Executive Director was invited to the „Listen to the East!“ an online event organised by the Katholische Akademie in Berlin with the topic „Vulnerable groups in Kosovo“ with a focus on social work with children and refugees;

On 21st of December, two colleagues presented in a radio show life streamed at “Romano Avazo” radio station in Prizren the activities of CONCORDIA especially how the children were supported during the pandemic.

The national TV station TËVË1 filmed a reportage in Tranzit centre in November and was broadcasted on 21st of November.

CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale International Volunteers - Fifi and Mili



Philippine Entz and Mirjeta Çusaj are two International Volunteers at CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale.

Mili (Mirjeta) (28) comes from Leverkusen, Germany while Fifi (Philippine) (26) comes from Toulouse, France. Both of them are actively involved in volunteering and have gained many experiences through their work in Jesuiten Weltweit Germany & Inigo France. Since September 2022, they have been an integral part of the CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale team.

On their first month of work, Fifi started to learn the Albanian language. She managed to learn the language well enough that they were able to communicate with the locals on their own, most importantly – talk to the program participants. Besides learning the language, our volunteers managed to give language lessons in German and French to the children who are registered in the Transit Centre – activities that the children greatly enjoy.

”

Learning a new language and a new culture is always a great opportunity that shouldn't be missed. In addition, working in social projects such as CONCORDIA Transit helps to widen one's horizon. Especially, being away from home and outside of one's own comfort zone is crucial as this is a great experience for personal and professional development.

(Philippine Entz- Volunteer)



"Dream House"

My name is Krenar and I belong to the Ashkali community. I am 23 years old and I only attended primary school in my childhood years. After school, I started working in a furniture company. I worked every day from 8 am until 7 pm and only had Sundays off. Then I met a man who had goals for the RAE community. Thanks to him, years later I found myself at CONCORDIA in the Tranzit day centre. At first, I was hired as a driver. But I wanted more, and I am glad I mustered the courage to express my desire.

CONCORDIA helped me to catch up on high school and successfully complete it. My educational qualification enabled me to apply for the job as a project assistant. CONCORDIA gives all children and youth the opportunity to make something of themselves and continues to do so by giving more importance to the education of the children of the RAE community. Now my community continues to develop by looking at the world from a different perspective, for example by attending regular primary education.

We have five "RAE students" enrolled in high school, and one of them is now studying at the University of Prishtina, where he is very successful.



K. M. Project Assistant CONCORDIA Kosovo

Continuous learning and development



Building competencies of the staff with the ultimate goal of permanently increasing the quality of the social and educational services provided to the vulnerable groups

At the beginning of April, for three days, a team of ten employees took part in a workshop organized in Vienna at the invitation of the LenZ social and educational project of CONCORDIA Austria.

Among the topics of the workshop agenda were: outreach work, specificities of working with minorities, project development objectives, methods, and skills to address the diversity of target groups. Several visits have been organized to other NGOs in Vienna active in social and educational services like Nachbarinnen, Pyramidops, and Jugendtreff Alte Trafik. The trip to Vienna had also a team building importance, as well as contributing to a better acknowledgment of CONCORDIA Kosovo employees of being part of a larger organization.

CONCORDIA Social Projects Romania, through its training department CONCORDIA Academia and with the support of CONCORDIA International, organized the “FLIP - Future Leaders’ International Program”, a leadership training program for employees of CONCORDIA organizations from Romania, Austria, Bulgaria, Moldova, Kosovo, and Germany. FLIP is a development program for young talents & middle management and intends to offer to professionals the opportunity to enhance their potential and accelerate their careers.

The program aimed to offer the participants a better and broader understanding of the organization, its values, and soul, as well as an intense multi-cultural learning experience (through direct interactions with colleagues from other CONCORDIA countries, an international pool of experienced trainers, and study visits in Romania and Austria). Three of the employees of CONCORDIA Kosovo took part in this training in the period of May – October 2022.

In September, the executive director took part, altogether with CONCORDIA colleagues from Austria, Moldova, Romania, and Bulgaria, in a study tour (training and visits to different social providers) in Madrid, Spain.

During the period 28.11 – 02.12.2022, the psychologist, one teacher, and one social worker participated in a learning exchange and training activities within the project ‘Trauma-informed practice (TRIP) – emergency psychological support and capacity building’ (Lead: CONCORDIA Social Projects, Donor: Kindernothilfe Germany), that was organised in Bregenz, Austria.

Besides the above international participation, there have been training sessions in which employees took part in the country (case management, duties, and collaboration on child protection matters according to the Law on Child Protection, etc.)

Donors



Financuar
nga Bashkimi Evropian
dhe Këshilli i Evropës



Zbatohet
nga Këshilli i Evropës





Strategic support

With the help of Renovabis, CONCORDIA has received a long-term commitment from the Catholic Central Office for Development Aid (KZE). The project started in October 2021 and will accompany CONCORDIA until June 2024. This commitment creates a lot of planning security for the coming years and opens up space for a deeper rooting of CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale in the Municipality of Prizren and in the country.



Supporters and Collaborators Special Thanks



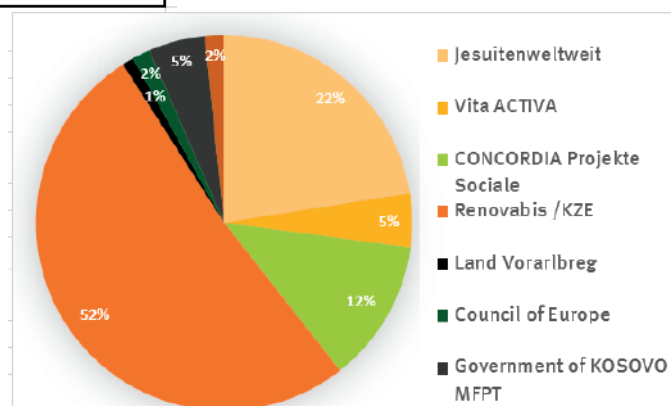
H.E. Christoph Weidinger, visit in CONCORDIA Transit Centre

Ministry of Finance, Labor and Transfers; Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport; Office of Good Governance, Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Anti-Discrimination, Office of the Prime Minister; Municipality of Prizren, Municipality of Suhareka, Centre for Social Work Prizren, Embassy of Austria in Kosovo, Association Loyola Gymnasium, Schools from Pirana (Dy Dëshmorët), Zhur (Deshmorët e Zhurit) and Prizren (schools Ibrahim Fehmiu, Abdyl Frasheri), Bjeshke Restaurant, meat processing factory "MEDINA", ABI Sh.P.K, Galeria Mall, Restaurant & Hotel "Sky Hotel", "BELI Supermarket", NPT Nderimi, "SWISS Pellet" company, PEMA NGO, Diakonie NGO, KAPIE NGO, Lulu Dance Academy, DONGHYEOK. SHIN B.I., Cinemarine Prizren, The kindergarten of the Angelic Sisters "Nena Kabrini".

Fund Sources- According to Donors

Donors	Income recognized for the year (EUR)	
Total Budget	459,454.93 €	100%
Jesuitenweltweit	103,300.00 €	22%
Vita ACTIVA	21,362.42 €	5%
CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale	56,474.62 €	12%
Renovabis /KZE	236,784.53 €	52%
Land Vorarlberg	4,596.11 €	1%
Council of Europe	6,977.08 €	2%
Government of KOSOVO MFPT	22,410.00 €	5%
Other donors	7,549.92 €	2%

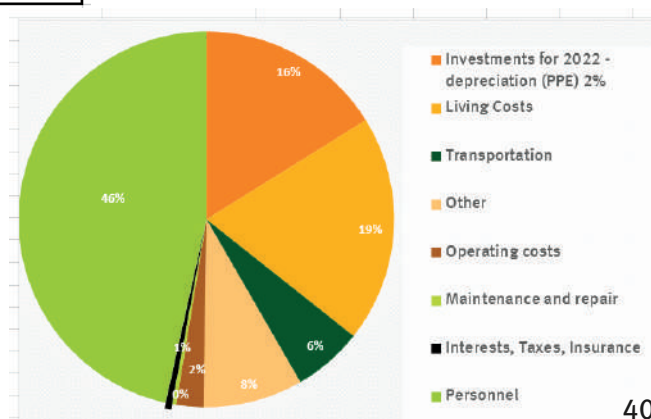
Budget by donors



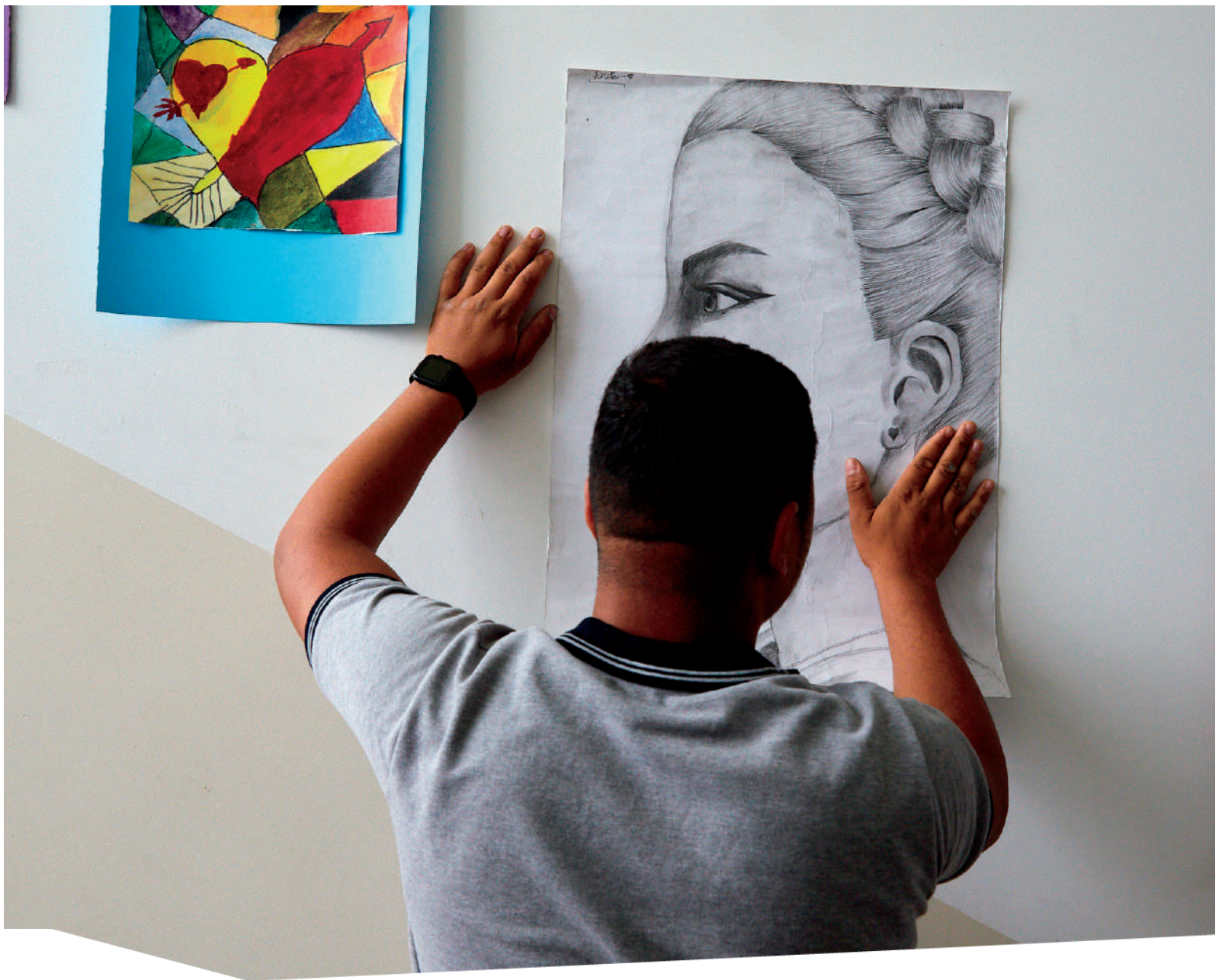
Types of costs

Statement of comprehensive income		
Total Donations for 2022	459,454.93 €	100%
Investments (PPE) for 2022 - depreciation 2%	72,580.05 €	16%
Recognized incomes	386,874.88 €	
Living Costs	87,794.23 €	19%
Transportation	27,022.35 €	6%
Other	38,580.33 €	8%
Operating costs	10,483.66 €	2%
Maintenance and repair	1,514.02 €	0%
Interests, Taxes, Insurance	2,561.46 €	1%
Personnel	209,107.00 €	46%
Depreciation	45,527.00 €	
Total expenses	422,590.05 €	
Surplus/deficit for the year*	(35,715.17) €	

Types of costs



*Deficit is due to depreciation of gifted property



Auditor's Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of CONCORDIA - Projekte Sociale ("the organization") which comprises the Statement of Financial Position as of December 31, 2022, and the Statement of Income, Statement of Changes in Net Assets and Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended on that date, and notes to financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the 'CONCORDIA - Projekte Sociale as of December 31, 2002, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) and requirements of the Law No. 06 / L-043 on Freedom of Association in Non-Governmental Organizations, as described in Note 2 of financial statements.

CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale Team

CONCORDIA Tranzit

- Mirela Lavric -Executive Director
- Gjeneta Çoçaj -Programme Coordinator and Finance Director
- Arlinda Zhupi Muslu- Project Officer
- Saranda Berisha -Teacher and Coordinator of Tranzit Day Centre
- Mynever Basha- Teacher, National Focal Point for Child Protection and Coordinator of the Parent's School
- Valbona Belallari- Psychologist and Coordinator of the Women's Support Group
- Argenita Mijalica- Social worker and Coordinator of the Mobile Team
- Arbnor Morina- Art Teacher
- Dorentina Bytyqi- Social worker and Coordinator of the Vocational Counselling
- Nehari Shporta- Nurse
- Krenar Mustafa- Project Assistant
- Hane Bucaj - Educator
- Jetmir Mustafa- Educator
- Rahmi Mustafa - Cook
- Zoja Mersulaj - Janitor
- Ramadan Saiti - Night guard
- Skender Krasniqi - Night guard
- Adonis Gjini - Music Teacher
- Uliks Hoxhaj- Music Teacher
- Berat Tafallari - Music Teacher
- Egzona Dullaj - Music Teacher
- Marigona Delija - Music Teacher
- Rustem Gashi - Music Teacher and Conductor of the CONCORDIA Tranzit Orchestra



CONCORDIA Projekte Sociale Association

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<https://www.facebook.com/concordiaprojektesociale>

Registration number as NGO: 5118824-1

Fiscal number: 602444325

Raiffeisen Bank Kosovo

IBAN: XK05 1501090004327049

BIC: RBKOKPR

