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## **Project Visits in Prague on 7 November 2013 (13:30-17:30)**

### **1. The Boat Hermes – a nightshelter for homeless people**

Provider: The Prague Social Services Centre

Address: Nábř. Kpt. Jaroše, pod Štefánikovým mostem, Praha 7

Capacity: 233 beds

The ship made in 1962 was first designed as a cargo vessel for transportation of goods. The boat was rebuilt into a floating accommodation facility, particularly for night shelter for homeless at the end of 2006.

Accommodation inside the boat is divided into four sections. The service is provided for men and women for a fee of 20 CZK (0,8 EUR)/night. The service users have access to toilets, showers and a common dining room where a hot tea is served. The service users have also possibility of heating their own food there.

Directly on the ship the social and legal counselling as well as the psychological counselling are provided. The service users are as well allowed to use medical dispensary.

### **2. Kolping's house – the asylum shelter for mothers with children Kolpingův dům – azylový dům pro matky s dětmi**

Provider: Kolping's family Praha 8

Address: Bohnická 32/3, Praha 8

Capacity: 22 beds

The asylum shelter mission is to protect and support families, particularly single mothers, who live in inadequate conditions connected with lack of housing and threatening a healthy development of the child. The aim of stay in the asylum shelter is then stabilization of the social and financial situation of the users and their return to the common society. There are 7 rooms with private bathroom and kitchen corner available for women's accommodation.

In the working with clients for example the method of the video training of interaction is being used. There is also the choice of joint activities being offered to clients, for example cooking/baking courses as well as PC courses.

### **3. Night Out, Czech Republic:**

The idea was to provoke discussion about ever growing homelessness in an innovative way – and indeed more people than expected actually responded to that provocation. It was a nightly event that enlivened the city and created links between those involved. A difficult topic has been tackled publicly in a creative and bold way. Other towns have signed up to participate in the next 'Night Out'. The result is that society is not permitted to simply ignore a social phenomenon any more. One of the reasons is that the people affected are able to contribute to shaping the image that others have of them. In this way, political processes in the best sense can be triggered.

The project is a fundraising activity that gives obtained means to organizations working with homeless people. The project creates a meeting space for various partners' (public,



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students, academicians, non for profit organizations and other movements) mutual communication about issues connected to homelessness and at the same time enables to look into the life of homeless people in an experiential way.

The event is inspired with “sleep outs” from abroad but goes further. It involves homeless people to its organization, runs accompanying cultural programme for those who decide not to sleep out but still want to give their support to homeless people. Its activities strive to finance from its own business resources. The whole project functions on volunteer basis.

#### **4. Pragulic:**

Homelessness has been always a huge problem mainly in the big cities. Lack of understanding moves these people out of the society which cause many problems on the both sides. We simply connect these people with society again by using and highlighting their best skills. To be honest, who knows streets of the city better than people who spend there most of their time? Imagine how many stories they know and all the things they experienced. And they are willing to share it with you and they are absolutely enthusiastic about the fact that they got a chance to do something meaningful and maybe also change something.

“Pragulic – Discover Prague in a Different Way” is a Social Enterprise employing homeless as a tour guides. This project was born in March 2012 thanks to the international competition „Social Impact Award“ where we were honoured with Community voting award. Our goal is to return homeless back to the working process and at the same time offer our customers a unique opportunity to discover real life in the streets.

We currently employ 7 guides which were carefully selected and trained. We approached shelter houses and organisations working with homeless at early stage of our project in order to build a partnership and discuss possible obstacles. Recruitment of guides took place in these organisations which enabled us to present our project in front of their clients or they directly recommended us suitable persons. Selected guides went through four-week-long training where they, beside other things, designed their own tour based on their personal experience. Therefore every single tour is unique. We have tours highlight sights, other show you former squats, shelter houses, museums, amazing architecture, hidden corners of the city, dark side of Prague or places connected with communist regime all around the city.

#### **5. Naděje Centre Praha – Bolzanova – a day centre for homeless people**

Provider: Naděje

Address: Bolzanova 7, Prague

Capacity: 20 people in one certain time

Naděje Centre Praha-Bolzanova, the Day Centre for Young Homeless People

The Day Centre Bolzanova is a part of the broader Integration program \_Efor the homeless. It has been helping young homeless people since 1997.



The main services: social counselling, psychological counselling, hygiene service, food aid, socio therapeutic activities, mediation of an accommodation in Naděje hostels and shelters. Social workers and a psychologist encourage young homeless people to change their way of life.

Every year about 200 young people comes to day centre for the first time. About half of them need social services for a short time. Less than one fifth of the newcomers use the Naděje services for four years and more. In 2012, the centre attended altogether 474 young individual persons.

## **6. DOM- Halfway House Programme**

Target group of DOM are young people who happened to lose safe family as well as social background. The reasons why it happens differ: some youngster have never lived in families – they were brought up in institutions and after reaching the age of 18 they went to nowhere. Some youngsters have lived in very dysfunctional families and suffer from low self-esteem, limited education, lack of basic social skills. All of them miss safe environment, understanding grownups around them, support and love, which their age-mates naturally have without even thinking of it. The DOM provides residential as well as outpatient services, which help these youngsters to catch up with the existing gap and integrate in the society.

DOM provides 24 hours residential care in the Half Way House Units accompanied with social and psychological training for young people (17 – 27 ) without family background, especially for boys and girls, who left institutional care. DOM has also little flats around the Prague, which can be useful for more developed clients for training of more independent way of living.

<http://dom-os.cz/english/>