

Creditinfo Lanstraust hf  
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110 Reykjavik  
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**Ref.: sponsorship(s) for SOS Children's Village in Vilnius**

Dear Creditinfo Lanstraust hf,

I am more than happy to send you greetings from the SOS Children's Village in Vilnius. I hope that you will have a nice time reading this letter about young people, who had a great and valuable experience during the year because of your support. Thank you!

**Volunteering is a good start**

This time I want to tell you about young people who participated in a long-term training cycle. During the training they gained the knowledge about the labour market. Also, they learned about volunteering and had possibility to work. 'Volunteering is an experience that helps to develop skills and find out what can be your favourite activity,' said Antanas, one of the training mentors.



Young people are helping to clean Elderly Care center environment

Various activities, discussions and simulated job interviews took place throughout the year. The participants were creating Curriculum Vitae and motivation letters. But theory isn't everything, so during the training a group of young people went to volunteer at the Elderly Care Home.

Young person \*Renata was particularly interested in the elderly care: what elderly people do during the day, what they eat, who visits them. 'For a young girl, such as I am,

it is quite hard to imagine oneself after 50 years, but I do want to help these people. It was fun to talk to them. Their life experiences are so diverse and rich in memories,' shared her impressions Renata.

Young people were raking falling leaves, collecting garbage and branches. Curious, the elders came to take a look at the young helpers. Others watched through the windows and waved. 'For us it was both great help and a very productive working day. The young people were asking a lot of questions, we talked about the need to help others,' said the Elderly Care Home worker \*Angele.



Later, Renata and several other young people started volunteering independently in other organizations. Isn't that amazing?

Currently, \*Renata lives in the SOS family in the village, but soon she will move to the Youth Home. 'I have learned planning skills and already started applying them to my everyday life. I'm planning what I will be doing during the day, so I don't waste my time and manage to do a lot of things. I don't think it will be difficult for me to start living independently in the Youth Home,' explained Renata.

### Continuing to practice



Rasa with other young people painting mom Zita's house

Zita's family is one of 35 social risk families residing in Alytus District, whose children attend the SOS Children Day Care Centre and who receives a variety of advice and support. Mother \*Zita alone raises five children aged from 5 months to 9 years.

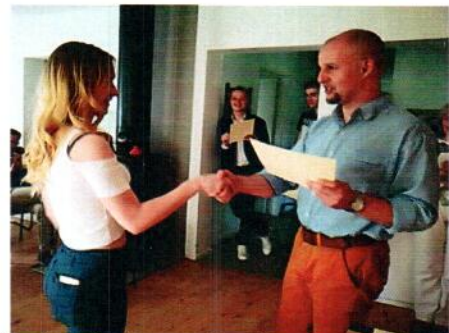
However, while visiting this family, the SOS social workers noticed that external walls of the family house must be painted, otherwise soon it will not be fit to live in.

Therefore, after becoming aware of this family young person \*Rasa, a girl who participated in the training, agreed to help and encouraged other young participants to do the same. At first, with the help of the village maintenance man Egidijus, the young people calculated the amount of paint required to paint the house.

'The house is quite big, but there were a lot of us, so we painted it without any problems. We had a great time. Many of us were painting a house for the first time,' said Rasa and added, 'While painting the house I understood how amazing are the people who gave me the opportunity to have my own house, my family in the SOS Children's Village in Vilnius. I am so thank full!'

'I believe that this experience will help young people to make courageous choices on their own paths and will develop empathy and gratitude in their hearts,' concluded his speech the SOS Children's Village in Vilnius Director Gedas at the final meeting of the trainings.

Dear Creditinfo Lanstraust hf, you too are among mentors and guides of these young people. It is you who gives them the opportunity to gain these experiences. Thank you so much!



The village director congratulates Rasa for completing the trainings

Yours sincerely,

Jurgita Ciutaite  
National Sponsorship Co-ordinator

\*The names have been changed to protect the privacy of the children.