

## Annual Report 2017



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#### Headquarter

# Introduction

The annual report of our organization is much more than just an administrative duty: it is an important element in the transparency of our operation and provides the opportunity to look back on the previous year.

In 2017, a new center in Eger was added to the aid organization's domestic network of institutions, and many developments took place. Our regional centres are becoming more open to local communities, helping people in need with increased services. We place great emphasis on the fact that our activity is determined everywhere by the creation of opportunities beyond transitional or temporary aid.

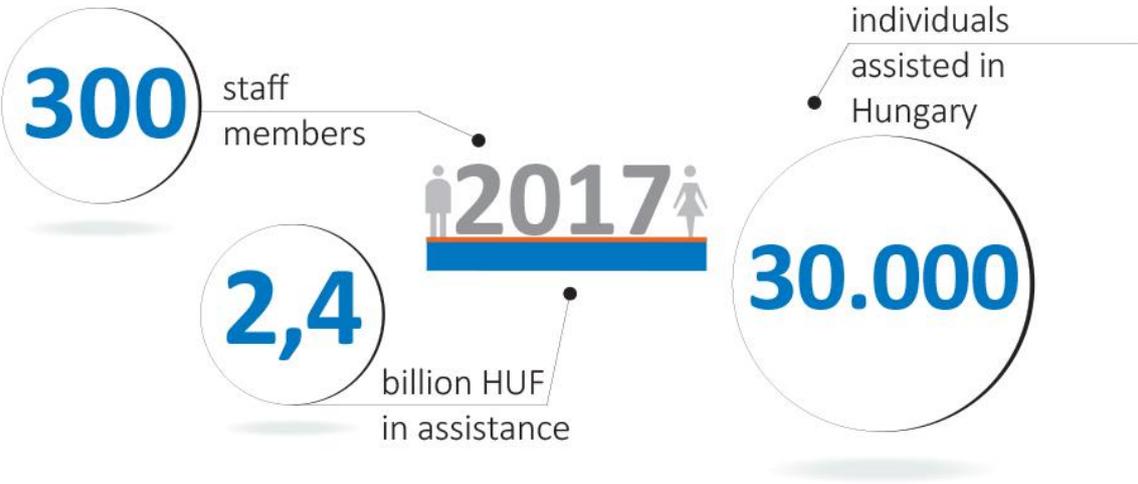
The relief programs of the aid organization in Ukraine, Afghanistan and Iraq have now gained serious recognition in the international arena as well. As far as significance is concerned, our aid programs in Iraq emerged in 2017, in addition to humanitarian emergency aid, rebuilding and development programs have also begun, providing a real chance for families to return home.

The unbroken trust of the aid organization was felt not only through the cooperation following the Verona bus tragedy but also through our traditional fundraising.

We are also thankful to our diverse partner and donor community, which is an opportunity to help out year after year.

**Thank you!**

## Our activities in numbers



## 2017 in a nutshell

**January:** On the day following the Verona bus tragedy a national fundraising campaign was announced. As promised in the fundraising campaign, 100% of the donations went directly to the affected families.

**February:** In 2017, we continued our food and sustainability aid programs in Afghanistan: more than 212 thousand individuals have received aid through the support of the UN World Food Program

**March:** For the first time, a Samsung Smart school was opened in our Social Center. The Smart room can also be used by families living in the temporary home in Miskolc, and is also free of charge for students from surrounding schools.

**April:** The "Games with Limits" program, which has been running since 2012, has added another important service this year: we created 7 new information points to provide information to those affected by gambling addiction.

**May:** Through the Cloudless Childhood program, we launched a 1 month fundraising campaign and a series of programs. The purpose of the campaign was to draw the attention of HIA to its regular annual work, supporting more than 1,500 children.

**June:** meddigmehet.hu - We created an online counselling service for victims of abuse. On the anonymous site, HIA's professional team: a psychologist, lawyer and social worker respond to the messages.

**July:** Two rounds of summer camps were organized in Balatonyörök, for children in need and victims of abuse, who had not had the chance to have a summer vacation before.

**August:** Tangible support to start the school year: Start the School year together! As a result of this fundraising, in 2017, for the sixth time, we supported more than 1000 children in need with quality teaching materials.

**September:** Thanks to the support of the county-level towns, we have launched a firewood and food aid program worth more than HUF 100 million in support of the people of Transcarpathia.

**October:** Our biggest Iraqi aid program was launched: the two-year humanitarian and development program is intended to support families returning to the Mosul region to remain and rebuild their homes.

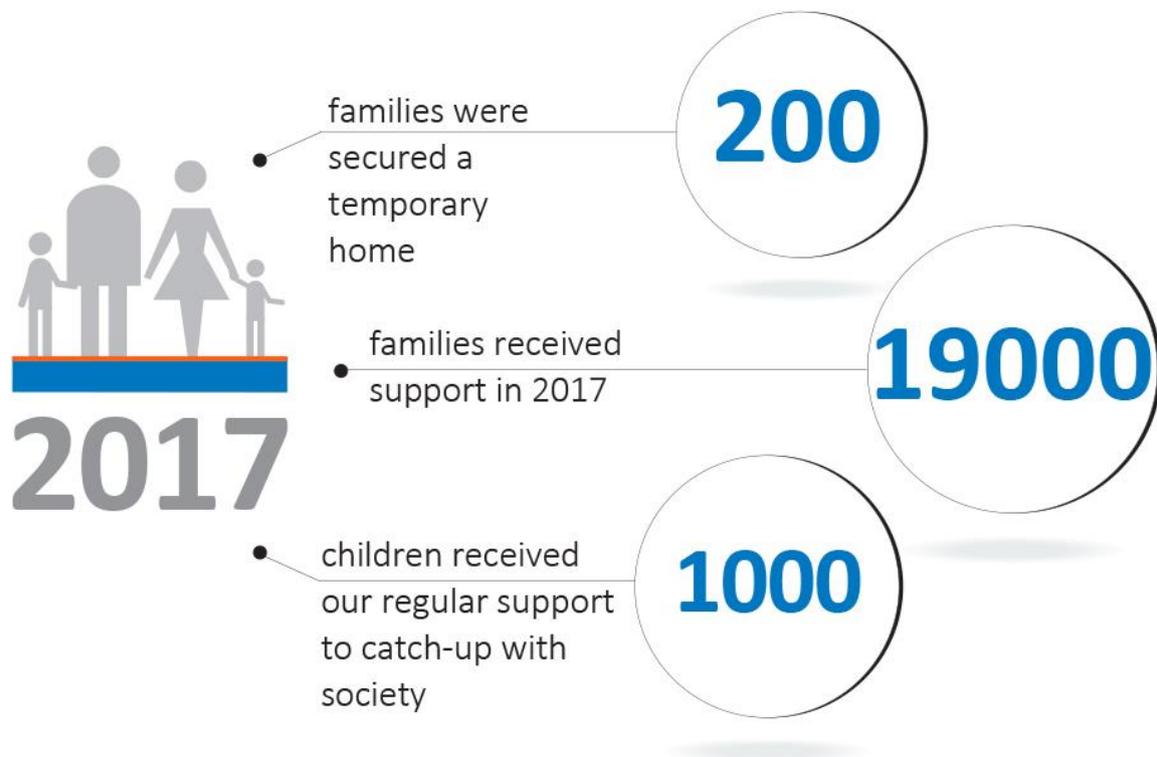
**November:** In Eger we opened a new social and development center: psychiatric patients and families in need receive help through the programs of the nursing home.

**December:** hunger.love.: the advent fundraising event was held for the 22nd time, producing incredible results, more than 500 people thousand joined the biggest fundraising event in the country.

## Our activities in Hungary - 2017



## Assistance to families and children



### Assistance to families in crisis

The individual queries for assistance were also handled by the National Aid centre in 2017. The national Aid center provided in kind assistance in 19000 cases, and the staff informed over 20 thousand applicants what kind of support they can receive from the state support system.

### Child development

In 2017 there was also great emphasis on helping children catch up with society: approximately 1000 children took part in the development programs. The diversity of the development activities (horse therapy, physical therapy, entertainment, tutoring, creative activities, health and psychological services) and the individually tailored assistance gives a chance for change for the children. Two summer camps were organized for children in need, a smart school room, a salt chamber were opened, and 1000 children were supported at the start of the school year, we restarted a tutoring program in Olaszliszka- only some highlights of the projects of our eight institutions regularly working with children.

### A way out of poverty

Already in five cities (Budapest, Kastélyosdombó, Miskolc, Orosháza, Szolnok) we operate temporary homes for families who lost their homes. These institutions serve to keep families together and provide help to move on, too.

In 2017 our model program further expanded in Kastélyosdombó: in the special temporary homes, families have the chance to be trained in agricultural and animal husbandry skills, and after being able to leave the social welfare bubble, they can move on to halfway houses run by HIA.

From 2017 a cheese factory is in operation next to the center. As part of the social agriculture system, the cheese factory also creates work opportunities and the sustainability of the project is assured by putting the premium product on the market.



## Assistance to the homeless

### 1300 homeless people received regular assistance

Homeless support centers were running in three locations: Budapest, Debrecen and Győr. A place to warm up, eat and bathe was provided: individualized advice and support provided in the search for work and chance to reenter society. Our street and rural area services have regularly assisted by people searching for shelter not only in the streets but also in the farmland or even on the outskirts of the city. Along with the regular food distribution of 300,000 portions, 10,000 portions of warm food were distributed to people in need during the advent campaign.

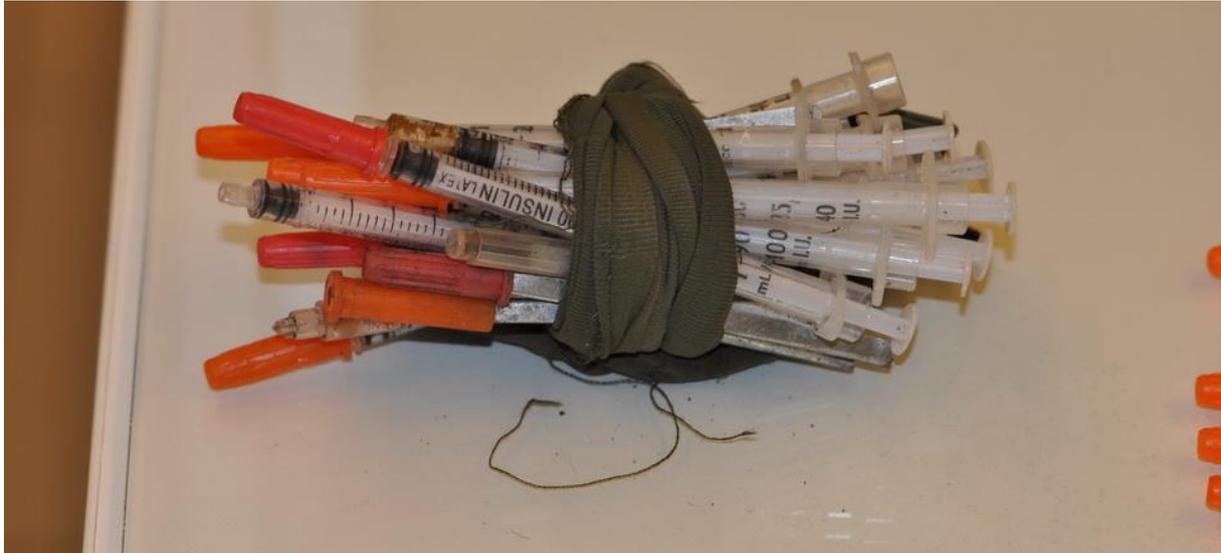


## Supporting addicts

Five centers provided support to addicts (Budapest, Debrecen, Eger, Kastélyosdombó and Szolnok)

Creating opportunities: this area is rarely touched upon, but it is important to note that we provide support to addicts get over the addiction.

Our **Game with borders!** program continued, where we raise awareness of the dangers of gambling and game addiction in, Martfű, Miskolc, Olaszliszka, Orosháza és Szolnok so far over 1000 students have been reached through school programs. As a new element of the project, information points were launched in seven cities, which prioritise awareness raising for gambling addicts.



## Supporting victims of abuse

In 2017 priority attention was given to victims of partner abuse. Safe houses provide a haven for mothers escaping abuse; so far 52 families have been accommodated in safe houses and three families in temporary homes, and in our two crisis centres, mothers and children escaping abuse.

Online support has also come to the forefront this year: we created an online support center at [meddigmehet.hu](http://meddigmehet.hu). On this anonymous site, HIA experts respond to the questions.

In our „Vedd Észre!” awareness raising campaign, practical help is given on how to see the early signs of abuse and where to get help.



## Humanitarian Assistance

**Extraordinary damages caused by winter weather:** After the extraordinary winter weather, with a one-time, lump sum grant, HIA supported the repair of the 4-section plastic tunnels of 1000 m2 area owned by the Filadelfia Lutheran Church. The plastic tunnels collapsed under the weight of a very large amount of snow. The plastic tunnels were built years ago to create a large number of opportunities for formerly unemployed and disadvantaged Roma. The restoration of the plastic tunnels was completed at the beginning of the summer.

**Storm damages:** On June 21, 2017, in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County, in the village of Megyaszó in Szerencs, serious damage was caused by the extremely destructive hail. The storm and the hail caused damage to 545 houses of the 762 homes in the settlement. Further damage was also caused in public institutions, municipal real estate. For people living in disadvantaged areas, restoring their property was an extraordinary burden, many of them could only finance the costs from loans. HIA supported a selected group of families living in damaged roofless houses due to the limited resources available. Among the beneficiaries were families with a large number of children (minimum 4 children), dependent children and / families supporting elderly with care, and single sick patients whose houses were severely damaged (at least 75% of the total roof area) and the roofing material.

The project was funded by HIA from its own resources and from the support of the Vodafone Humanitarian Fund. In addition the organization also supported the construction of a new residential building for a Csango family whose home burned down with over 300,000 forints. In all cases, the organization has decided on the level of support following consultation with the affected parties, local government and construction experts, and verified the use of the materials provided.



## International activities – 2017



In 2017 we provided help in many areas of crisis: we opened a new office in northern Iraq, we continued our work in East Ukraine. Our humanitarian and development projects continued in Transcarpathia, Transylvania, and Afghanistan.

### Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, programs continued under the World Food Program.

Hungarian Interchurch Aid carried out intensive coordination and professional work throughout the year under the leadership of the Mazar-i-Sharif office. In 2017, the HIA Hungary signed an agreement with the UN World Food Program (WFP) Kabul office, to implement three projects, which provided the opportunity to implement further food programs. HIA Hungary provided assistance to 17,094 individuals in 2017 in Afghanistan.

Between April and October, river basin management, botanic garden development, and food aid distribution took place in Balkh and Samangan provinces. During the program, single mother households were assisted, afforestation took place and a botanical garden was established at Balkh University. These projects included the installation of a solar water pump, the planting of 51,848 trees, including 38,348 pistachio trees, the afforestation of 308 hectares, the construction of a 70 m protective wall, establishment of 11,300 meters of ground terraces, digging out 13,300 meters of ground terraces, and building 5 hectares of tree nurseries.

During the second program, from July 2017 to December 2010, HIA-Hungary held training sessions in Mazar-i-Sharif (Balkh Province), with 714 women learning tailoring and sewing skills, and receiving 6,885 AFN a month for 6 months.

In the third program, between October and December 2017, food aid and education activities took place in Khulm and Nahr-i-Shahi, in the region of Balkh. During the program a botanical garden at Balkh University was established and afforestation of the Khulm region took place in cooperation with DAIL, UNDP and FAO; terraces designed for 20,000 m long; 30,500 pruning pistachios; Establishment of 2 water tanks; Establishment of 1 solar water pump; planting 2,500 pistachios; as well as forest management in the area of 308 ha in order to preserve the existing ecosystem.



## Transylvania

School material distribution in Targu Mures and its neighbourhood: HIA-Hungary continued to support the start of schoolyear for Transylvanian schoolchildren in 2017. 70 primary school students and 80 secondary school students a from Târgu Mureş have benefited from the support.

The donation was received by Lazarénium Foundation in Târgu Mureş, and the Décal Foundation in Gárdony, Târgu Mureş through the partner organization of the HIA, the Pici Ház Utcagyerek Mission House and Lídia Otthon, operated by the Diakonia Center. The children of the large families living in the area received the support. The compilation of school packages was done together with the support of local teachers, and HIA volunteers assisted in the distribution.



Christmas aid distribution: Hungarian Interchurch Aid, like last years, supported the institutions of the Lazarénum Foundation in Târgu Mureş in 2017 and the 170- families with many children in the county. During the course of the visit the foundation regularly visits (1,000 people, 470 children). HIA launched the aid from the Budapest headquarters to Targu Mures, containing four tonnes of non-perishable food and fruit (flour, rice, pasta, legumes, sugar, edible oil, canned food, jam, cocoa, coffee, milk caramel, tea, chocolate, peanut, detergent (washing powder, disinfectant). The Christmas gift provided support for half a year for the 35-member children's home, the orphanage of 22 children and the 52 person elderly home. As part of the donation, HIA has also given social and development games to the children in the orphanage.



### **Northern Iraq**

With the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, in June 2016, HIA-Hungary opened its representation in Iraqi Kurdistan, Erbil, with the aim of supporting refugees through implementing humanitarian and development programs. HIA-Hungary is present in Iraq as an officially registered organization (recognized by the Iraqi Kurdistan Authority) and a member of the International Association of Aid Organizations (ACT Alliance). The Baghdad registration of the organization is in progress; the Hungarian consulate in Erbil cooperates with HIA-Hungary to close the registration process as soon as possible.

Iraqi operations carried out by HIA-Hungary are in cooperation with the Headquarter in Hungary; two Hungarian staff on site, working with local staff, experts and local partner organizations.

The main objective of HIA-Hungary in Iraq is to provide complex forms of support to Iraqi Kurdistan - primarily in the Nineveh Plateau - to assist and encourage the return of minorities to their homes, especially Christians. Furthermore, through the permanent presence, HIA-Hungary aims to involve international and domestic sources of funding. To this end, the staff has conducted a number of surveys on various locations affected by the crisis, for which detailed reports are being made, which are incorporated by the organization into its tender bidding documents and reports.



The main priority for the second half of 2017 was the preparation of supporting families returning in the coming period. To establish this activity, a new joint program was started by members of the ACT Forum, including HIA-Hungary. The planned total value of the program is expected to be 4-5 million USD. Each organization participates in the program by covering one sector, the joint programming, and the surveys lasted until 2017. The program is expected to begin in the first half of 2018, during which HIA-Hungary plans to distribute hygiene materials and plans to clean certain districts of the city in western Mosul, and will also be involved in the rehabilitation of agricultural land in Sinjar through a "cash for work" program.

In 2017, the Hungarian Interchurch Aid submitted a request for support to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the situation of the Iraqi crisis with the assistance of "Supporting Refugees in Northern Iraq and their Communities, Promoting the Resettlement of Refugees. The grant was approved and the preparation and implementation of the first phase of the program began in October. In the framework of the program, in 2018, HIA-Hungary will establish a resettlement support center in Bashiqa, in the Nineveh Plain, with the aim of supporting families relocating to their settlements by renovating their homes.

The following activities will be implemented through the whole program: renovation of 30 private houses, provision of winter fuel for 162 families, contribution to the rehabilitation of the local core infrastructure, rehabilitation and resumption of water supply for 2,500 people in Alkosh, education support - school renewal for 600 students, refugees, internally displaced refugees in and outside refugee camps, primarily food, sanitation and other essential equipment.



### *Humanitarian assistance*

The primary objective of HIA-Hungary with its multi-sectoral, holistic support programs, is to encourage minorities, primarily Christian IDPs to resettle and stay in the country.

HIA is a registered humanitarian organization in Iraq-Kurdistan and is a member of the ACT Alliance's Geneva-based International Alliance's Iraqi Regional Forum, in close co-operation with humanitarian agencies since the opening of the Erbil humanitarian representation.

The largest humanitarian action in 2017 was carried out in July by HIA in Iraq in Bashiqa-Bahzani, Bartella and Iraq's largest Christian city of Qaraqosh. In the cities north-east of Mosul, the inhabitants continuously returned to their homes after the liberation of the area. HIA supported 546 returnee families with long-term food packages to Christian families: Bashiqa 103, Bartella 25, and Qaraqosh 418 families benefited from food support. In Bartella, HIA-Hungary was the first to start supporting the returnees. Packages for five person families included rice, oil, sugar and other non-perishable foods. The donation was distributed by the local partner organization of HIA, CAPNI.

Within the framework of the program supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the first aid action was implemented in October, during which the assistance was provided to 600 families forced to leave their homes due to the clashes in Telskuf north of Mosul and surrounding villages. This assistance included food and blankets in three locations: 400 in Alqosh, 100 families in Sharafaba and 100 in Bandwaya. The refugees are housed in church halls and monasteries, and many are housed in empty caravans or houses until they can return to their homes.



### **Ukraine**

HIA started a study hall development activity in the city of Berehove. From 15 November 2017, 10 hours a week, an pre-school teacher held classes children to develop their social competences. These included an English language development class twice a week, and a mathematics study hall.

In 2017, HIA held training courses in Hungarian for youth with fewer opportunities to increase their social inclusion and increase their opportunities in the labor market. The training of disadvantaged young people living in Transcarpathia helped them get an insight into possible professions in the job market. The accredited social worker training started on 8 December 2016; the theoretical and practical training ended on 31 August

2018, with 11 qualified social workers. Within the framework of the accredited enveloping training, 10 persons completed the tiling qualification between 4 September and 22 December 2017.

Through this program, the organization worked closely with the relevant state institutions, including the Employment Office of Berehove, the County Coordination Center and the Ukrainian Ministry of Education. The project contributed directly to support the Transcarpathian Hungarians to remain in their native country, and through securing training in new professions, education in the mother tongue further increased in the Berehove district.

The vocational training program was implemented with the support of the Secretary of State of the Ministry of National Affairs.



Humanitarian aid in Transcarpathia: In the autumn of Autumn 2017, HIA submitted a program for the support of disadvantaged Hungarians living in Transcarpathia. In the framework of humanitarian aid the purpose is to provide school support, hygiene packages, winter heating materials and non-perishable foods. HIA has made a total of 673 initiatives in humanitarian aid and distributed 1,346 food and hygiene packages in 41 settlements between 6 December and 22 December 2017. In addition to the HIA staff, local social workers distributed the aid packages, who had direct contact with all the families in need, especially older people. Before the arrival of the cold winter, HIA had already initiated the purchase of 100 tons of briquettes in December 2017 for the first winter heating support to divide them between 200 households in need from January 20 to February 8, 2018.



Donations to Hungarian communities on the other side of the border is part of the Back to School fundraising campaign, that aims to support the enrolment of a total of 1,000 children. From the received donations, HIA provides packages or personalized learning support to help families that are having a great deal of difficulty in enrolling their children to school. In 2018 in Beregszász and surrounding areas, 70 schoolchildren in need received a HUF 10000 worth of school materials.

**Ukraine Crisis - Humanitarian Assistance to Internal Refugees through ACT Alliance:** HIA continued this in 2017 as a result of the situation created by the war in Ukraine due to internal refugee groups, the victims of the economic crisis in the wake of the war. In Ukraine, due to the fights in eastern Ukraine, an internal wave of refugees left the eastern region of the country in 2014. In 2017, the number of internally displaced persons in Ukraine has not decreased, which still exceeds 1.6 million, and nearly ten thousand have been killed since the outbreak of the conflict.

In 2017, HIA acted as a member of Geneva-based ACT Alliance in. UKR161 and UKR171 were implemented in virtually all areas of Ukraine where there is a significant number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other target groups of those who are living in the conflict zone. In 2017, HIA provided assistance to internally displaced persons and people living in war-affected areas: Donetsk, Kherson, and Zaporizhia.

The ACT UKR 161 program provided support to a total of 18,120 people in need: food aid; distribution of hygiene packages; distribution of hygienic packages for children under the age of 2; provision of psycho-social assistance to elderly and vulnerable women; winter heating material for the elderly.

The RRF-2017 program in North-East Ukraine in early 2017 is intended to provide winter heating material support for families in crisis due to the particularly cold weather. Within the framework of the program, 464 beneficiaries of 235 households in need have received 0.54 tonnes of coal per household; a total of 127,605 tons of was distributes.

The ACT UKR 171 program allocated Food and Hygiene Packages to a total of 542 beneficiaries of 100 families to the Aid Products in Eastern Ukraine, Donetsk and Zaporizhia counties.



## Social solidarity

In addition to the continuous feedback to the donors about the activities of HIA in 2017, three planned and three extraordinary fundraising events were announced to support our work.

Apart from the year School Start together! campaign, and the hunger.love. campaign which is the biggest in the winter period, for a fourth time, in May we announced the Cloudless childhood program fundraising campaign and program series. In addition to the planned fundraising, we started an extraordinary fundraising for the victims of the Verona bus accident, the elderly and families in need of the Transcarpathian people and for the internally displaced in Northern Iraq. In addition to fundraising, we launched an awareness raising campaign for preventative purposes focusing on preventing partner violence and child abuse. Running for the fourth year in a row, the national campaign provides practical help to young people, parents and children to recognize signs of violence as soon as possible and to know where to go for help. It was also the aim to publicize the How long can it go? online anonymous support service.



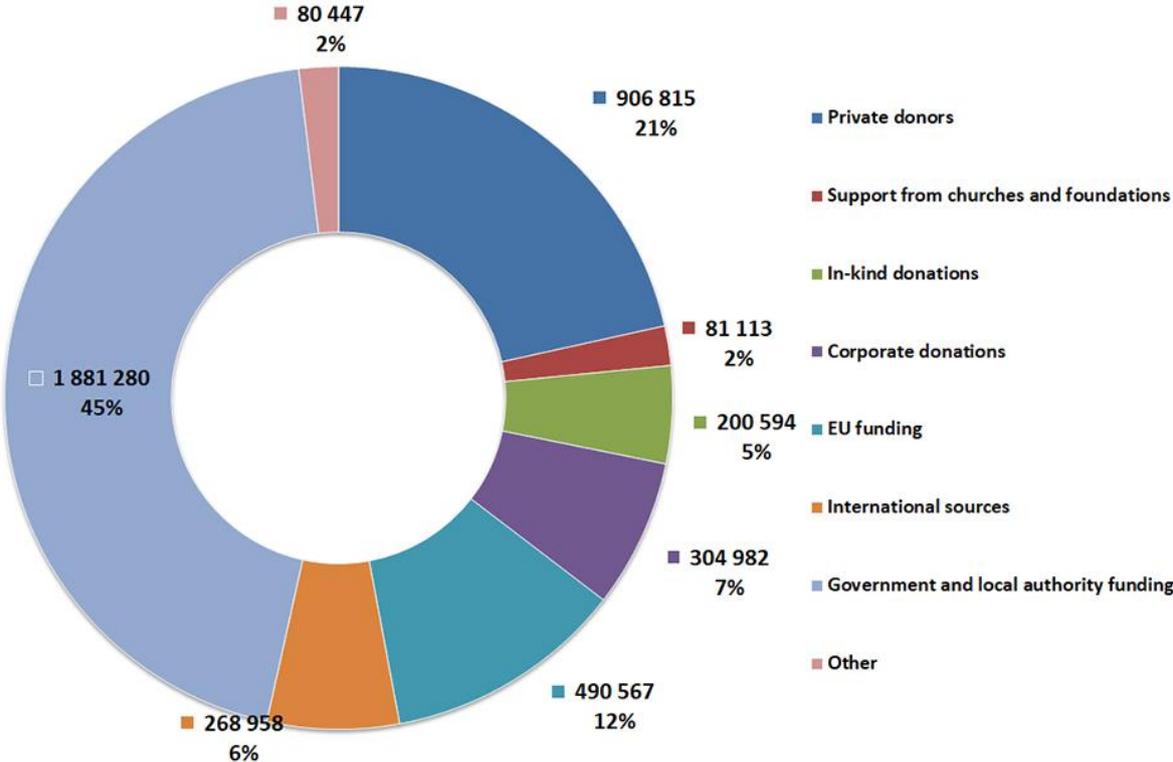
## Volunteering

880 volunteers supported our work during 4750 hours. Volunteering is one of our core values: in 2017 almost 900 volunteers helped our work and hundreds of new volunteers came to our aid organization. In 2017, members of the organization held lectures, workshops, awareness-raising programs in schools or summer camps and at festivals on several occasions. We have taken care of training and preparing volunteers several times and in order to keep volunteers and increase their commitment, we also organized regular meetings.



# Financial Data

Sources of Funding (thousand HUF)



Total Expenditures (thousand HUF)

