



CARPATHIAN FOUNDATION-HUNGARY

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is an independent, non-profit, civic organization improving the quality of life of the communities living in the Carpathian region, preserving and utilizing the social, economic, ethnic, cultural and environmental values of the region.

As a unique cross-border organization the Foundation provides financial and professional assistance to NGOs, local-self-governments and communities for implementing their local development initiatives primarily in the Hungarian part of the Carpathian region (Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok and Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties) and all over Hungary.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary encourages co-operation among NGOs, governmental and profit-oriented organizations in the following main areas:

- Rural community development;
- Human resource development;
- Preservation of cultural and environmental values;
- Development of social integration.

Our goal is to strengthen social consciousness and regional identity by highlighting inherent values of the region.

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary is the member of the Carpathian Foundation Network (consisting of foundations from Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine) that contributes to the development of the Carpathian region by providing grants and professional assistance to NGOs and local-self-governments operating in the bordering area of Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Sándor Köles – chairman
Endre Borsos – board member
Csaba Lőrinczi – board member
János Mátyás – board member

STAFF:

Boglárka Bata – executive director
Beáta Csomós – program manager
Anikó Magyar – program coordinator
Roland Kelemen – program coordinator
Ivett Babcsa – program assistant
Dávid Tresó – program assistant
Norbert Havasi – institutional development project assistant
Eszter Juhász-Daragó – financial assistant
Julietta Lakatos – volunteer

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT US:

Carpathian Foundation-Hungary
HU-3300 Eger, Mekksey Str. 1.
Tel.: +36 36 516 750
Fax: +36 36 516 751
cfhu@cfoundation.org
www.karpatokalapitvany.hu
www.carpathianfoundation.org
TAX number: 18584642-1-10

Bank account number: 10918001-00000004-70120008

THANKS TO OUR MAIN DONORS AND PARTNERS:

Autonómia Foundation, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Foundation for Development of Democratic Rights; EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanism Office; Életfa Environmental Society; Labour Service of Heves County; Local Self Government of Heves County; Human resources Development Operational Program; Hungarian Telekom Otd. INNTEK Non-profit Ltd.; ITD Hungary Non-profit Corp.; Carpathian Foundation International; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Hungary; University of Miskolc; National Civic Fund; Open Society Institute; National Employment Foundation (OFA); Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation; Robey Family Foundation; RomNet Media Foundation; Social Renewal Operational Program; Gender Studies and Equal Opportunities Center, University of Miskolc.

Community Centres
Development Fund
and Carpathian
Quick
Response
Fund



*Supporting communities
of disadvantaged areas*

SERVING THE REGION
FOR 15 YEARS



www.karpatokalapitvany.hu

THE BACKGROUND

The most important assets of the Carpathian region are human resources, people. As a result of Hungary's accession to the European Union and the Schengen Treaty, local communities in North-Eastern Hungary have suffered considerable damage as the migration of young and qualified people is an increasing tendency.

The ones left behind in these eroded communities find it difficult to face the new challenges or to rely on their own resources in emergency situations, and look at the state/municipalities as the only sources of help.

Young and qualified people are more mobile and they relocate more easily. Nevertheless our efforts aim to mitigate the negative effects of this trend by encouraging local communities to find local solutions for the motivation of the ones that decided to stay by creating new opportunities and improving their quality of life.

In 2002 Reflecting to these needs with the support of Mr Frederick Robey and his Family Foundation, we created, the Carpathian Quick Response Fund, and the Community Centres Development Fund in 2008, further realizing local needs.



CARPATHIAN QUICK RESPONSE FUND

THE BACKGROUND OF THE FUND

The experience is that socially and economically disadvantaged communities find it difficult to stand up successfully to social and economic challenges having only to depend on their own resources. In many cases these people do have the motivation and ideas but not the information and skills how to implement their ideas and not the money which makes it harder for them to surmount difficulties. This is what we aim to change.

THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND

It supports local communities in situations that require prompt action where it is needed by making small amounts of money available for civil organizations and municipalities as a one time aid.

ACHIEVEMENTS –SUPPORTED ORGANIZATIONS

Since 2002 there have been several situations that required prompt action to support local initiatives:

Among others we supported the joint efforts of the *Hungarian Transport Association and the Clean Air Workshop* to start an expert discussion about possible solutions to decrease the railway branch line closures on the rural areas of Hungary.

In 2008 we supported the initiative of the *Romsom Foundation* in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County that aimed to set up an education scheme for mainly Roma children leaving school prematurely due to their social background or personality disorders.

In 2008 we also supported the launch of a programme called DISKURZUS jointly proposed by the *Ministry of Education and Culture, the Hungarian Education Institute, the Applied Arts Centre and the Municipality of Ferencváros* to improve public discourse and change the prejudiced views on the Roma population.

COMMUNITY CENTRES DEVELOPMENT FUND

GOALS

The Carpathian Foundation-Hungary aims to support ideas that help communities in North-Eastern Hungary (in Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén, Hajdú-Bihar, Heves, Jász-Nagykun-Szolnok, Nógrád, Szabolcs-Szatmár-Bereg Counties) to improve their living conditions by themselves.

To achieve this we launched a development programme that relies on the communities' own human resources and which primarily supports the community development efforts of primary and secondary schools in the region to improve the prospects of the young generation.

The long term goal of the programme is to help the creation of sustainable community centres based on these local schools' own initiatives that would lead to the establishment of stable and co-operative communities in the Carpathian region.



BEST PRACTICE PROJECTS

Since the launch of the Fund in 2008 we have funded two best practice projects:

- **You were born here Project to make people stay in Túrkeve**

The aim of this project is to help the launch of local training programmes involving local civil organizations and schools and to promote co-operation among these establishments.

The Achievements of the Project

- extension of the local library to be able to provide services for the whole community;
- to set up and develop a new foreign language training centre for the whole community;
- extension of the existing IT centre of the local school to be appropriate for IT courses;
- launch of IT trainings for adults as well;
- development of an adult education scheme based on local attributes of labour market;
- new elements in youth education: career advice & planning, youth parliament;
- series of community workshops and community forums for common planning of the local community;
- development of the sports facilities of the local school.

- **The Telkibánya civic, adult education and services community centre (abbr. community centre)**

"When we chose Telkibánya, it was not only because of the site's physical properties but it was an important factor that we knew we could rely on its schools (its staff, its syllabus with the ecoschool programme) and the municipality's commitment to community development."

– Mr Béla Bereczky, FÉSZAK-KÖR

The Achievements of the Project

- development of adult trainings (acknowledged by the National Training Panel and other supervisory bodies);
- general community trainings (about community development, democracy, civic rights & duties, self-assertion, communal economy, sustainable development, etc.);
- adult and Sunday education (to encourage learning from each other, trainings to meet local needs);
- youth training and community centre;
- community forums;
- a regional community database, an interactive media coverage (covering the needs of the public, opportunities; relevant tenders, future projects, training material, other community information).