

Press Release for “Break Times – Jdeme do toho spolu (We are going into this together)” public collection

PROJECT INITIATOR

Break Times o.s. is organization focused on active participation of students of high schools into meaningful activity that can develop their abilities. Unlike other organizations focused on similar principles, this project was started by students and they do all work in their free time. Students are taught by professionals, Break Times cooperates with drop-in clubs, cultural organizations (SVK HK, movies, theatres) and also with already functioning media (Hradec’s and Pardubice’s Journal). The Main activity of Break Times is creating an interschool magazine, which student’s editorial offices prepare for their classmates. Nowadays, there are 8 high schools from both Hradec Králové and Pardubice, Czech Republic, involved in this project and over 80 students are working on each magazine. Although the magazine is distributed to every school on the very same day, each school has its own form of it. Every magazine consists of one part dedicated to articles from each particular school and another part includes the best articles from other editorial offices. The total number of printed magazines is 1200 copies. Additionally every week there is one page left for articles of Break Times in Hradec’s and Pardubice’s Journal. We can therefore claim that our articles are being read by more than 60 thousand readers.

MOTIVATION FOR STARTING UP A PROJECT

We have managed to give students space to express themselves and to create an independent functioning editorial system, which in our circle is generally known and positively rated. During the period of our existence, we have been interested in supporting humanitarian actions, development of volunteering and helping people, who have limited opportunities. We are trying to use the publicity of our magazine for a good cause. Out of a variety of our activities I will mention, that we cooperate with a Kid’s home in Potštejn, Czech Republic, then we made discussion with blind writer (this is confusing, either tell a bit more, or leave it out) and we are involved in many charity collections (for example?). Now, however we want to focus on our own project, in which we will put all our effort, creativity and we will use our gained experiences. We are calling this project “Break Times – Jdeme do toho spolu”. (We Are In This Together)

“BREAK TIMES – JDEME DO TOHO SPOLU”

The goal of this project is to build a hospital in the Philippines, in a city called Merida and a Kid’s home in Mozambique. We chose these goals because in these areas we have found partners who have experience with similar projects and are willing to cooperate with us.



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PHILIPPINES

In the Philippines we have decided to help a civic association Family Help Project led by Andreas Pettersson, 1972. Andreas was Born in Sweden and he got to Philippines in 2001, when he went to help his father with setting up an orphanage and with agriculture projects. In the same year he met his future wife Lalia Pettersson. They got married in 2002. In this period he realized what social problems exist in his wife's birth city Merida on the Leyte Island.

Later on in 2003 Andreas and his wife founded an organization Family Help Project in Sweden, which was registered and started working in 2004. This organization worked in the Philippines from Sweden before 2010 when there was founded Family Help Project 1 this time right in Philippines. Since they arrived, they have successfully started Day Care centres for kids. This centre now employs 4 teachers, who teach 46 kids the ages of 4 to 6 years. They have been able to build a building of 220 m² to help with the kids.

On this same plot they have also built another building (80m²), where they lead a breeding program with goats and chickens. Thanks to the program they can give lunches not only to the students of the school but also to 100 malnourished kids in Merida.

They have also created a development model of organic farms, where they grow vegetables and breed goats, hens and pigs. The main purpose of this is to provide fruit and vegetables for the mentioned program which is helping to distribute food to malnourished kids. Another goal is (that this breed can regularly (confusing, I would take it out) to provide food for the needy and so local farmers and kids after school can thanks to this project learn how to eke out profit without using dangerous and expensive chemicals. (again confused, needs to be reworded)

Nowadays in the Philippines the biggest problem is the lack of necessary education and indifference of local people to do something with it. This is caused by an unfair political system and corruption. Due to these negative influences people suffer from poverty, starving, social unrest, they live in very unhealthy social conditions, where there is a lot of diseases. But before we can help these people with education, we need to make them want to change their own conditions in which they live.

Our goal is to build a hospital in this locality, that would serve as a "check-up centre" for 3000 local inhabitants and that would help to precede and cure relatively easy to cure diseases like asthma, diarrhea, fever or herpes. Expenses to build such a centre will be 15 000 EUR.

ABOUT BUILDING

The dimensions of the building will be 20m x 7m and it will be built out of steel poles, cement, sand and gravel. The ceiling will be made of plywood and the roof will be made of galvanized steel. The floor will be covered with flagstones and walls will be painted with waterproof colors.

There will be around 20 workers hired for the construction, 5 from Mindanao and 15 from Leyte.

Exact address is: Philippines, Leyte Island, city Merida, Barangay Poblacion, Lilang

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS IN PHILIPPINES

FHP – non-profit organization registered in Sweden, main job is helping poor families in Philippines. Chairman of the organization is Andreas Petterson. (<http://familyhelpproject.webs.com/>)

FHP1 - non-profit organization registered in the Philippines. It was founded for the same purpose as FHP.

Both organizations are connected by partnership contracts in order to fulfill common goals. Chairman of FHP1 is Lolito Caluzong. (<http://fhp1phil.weebly.com/index.html>)

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All collected money will go only to realizing the set goal. There will be no incidental expenses for the organization or anything else.



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MOZAMBIQUE

In Mozambique we have decided to focus on project of building a Kid's home in a city called Maputo. In this city is Pastor Josms Deirdeusr, who has set up many churches, schools and orphanages in this area. His activity helps hundreds of citizens there. Together with his team and with support of some European organizations, they dug out a few wells, they can sell the water and make money for running the mentioned activities.

We decided for this project because we know the people well who have not only been there, but they also contributed to building up schools or orphanages. The next reason was also the price for one orphanage, which is around 80 000 CZK. As students we hope, that there will be no problem in raising this amount of money. Through this we are hoping to give a chance to 12 kids, so they can safely grow up and become adults.

We are still waiting for concrete information about construction.

GENERAL INFORMATION

We know that we did not sign up for an easy task, but there is nobody in our 30-member team who would have single a doubt about this project. And this is what it is about. Our goal is not "only" to build this orphanage and hospital, but it is also about sharing the idea of mutual cooperation, which is so important for the whole project. We want to put together a great group of people, who have their eyes open a little bit more than their peers and who want to help those, who were not born as lucky as they were. With this we have also connected another goal and that is to show, that also "poor" students, when they cooperate can save thousands of lives and learn many things while doing so.

These two goals mentioned above we plan on accomplishing through a collection, which will last for 6 months and will be concluded in September 2011 by a music concert where one last public collection will take place. For this concert we are planning to invite a music star from the actual Czech music world, which will be the patron of whole event.

Team Action has been divided into 4 basic groups and those are – Media, collecting, organization and PR.

In Media team are students, who want to help the project with promotion. It is mainly promotion regarding newspapers, TV and radio. This team is also taking care of proper functioning of web pages. One plan is to record their own song, which will be written for the use of the project.



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Volunteers in team “collecting” have a clear object and that is to raise as much financial resources as they can by organizing lectures at high schools and universities. At these schools we will collect the money from the students after the lecture. These students are for this purpose provided with workshops, public speeches and public performances.

Organization team will be taking care of making smaller promotions or public collections. But their main purpose is to organize final music concert in September.

And finally Public relations team, is a group where our students who are in contact with companies and state organizations such as city or county in order to ask them for their sponsorship for the project.

With these few ways we plan to collect enough money needed to fulfill the promise that we gave to organizations in Mozambique and in Philippines.

Advantage of this project we see is the fact that it was made and organized only by students without any other subjects involved. Next positive thing is that the collected money will only go through Break Times (civic association, which cannot profit out of project) and church in Mozambique and in Philippines. Both churches have been functioning by itself for many years without any significant financial help and they logically do not need any promotion as for instance foundation organizations do. So it means that 100% of what we will collect will go to mentioned projects. Complete guarantee for this is that we personally know both the Pastor from Mozambique and chairman of FHP in the Philippines. Additionally Hradec Králové’s church Element, which is partner of the whole collection, has already built in the very same place an orphanage 2 years ago. Regarding the Philippines’ hospital, we plan to go there and make documents about it for our partners.

I don’t think nor do I hope that we will manage to do it, because we know that we will! And we want to show other people, that today’s students are not only the equivalent of drunk and irresponsible slob.