PÉCS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION LAUNCHES SUPPORT CHAIN

Pécs Community Foundation (PCF) has launched a program to support healthcare workers, "incidentally" saving jobs and providing a market for local producers. They care about elderly people living alone and expect the role of local communities to increase as the epidemic ends.

At the initiative of the Pécs Community Foundation, a place called Breakfast cooks food – initially 50 servings – for healthcare workers. The organisation's response to the coronavirus crisis is very complex: the ingredients come from local producers, while the restaurant can provide work for some of its employees – so the "side effects" are also significant. The idea came from Dávid Felcser, one of Breakfast's owners and a trustee of the foundation. The initiative is a sustainable one: the foundation finances it with HUF 1 million from its own budget. The extra support of HUF 1 million received from the Roots & Wings Foundation is also intended to be used for this purpose.

In addition, the foundation, in cooperation with the Pécs Bike Mafia, is launching a crisis support program called "Chow Commando" to help elderly people living alone. Thanks to the financial support received so far, 15 households will initially be provided with supplies of non-perishable foods for 1 month, delivered to those in need by Bike Mafia's cyclists. The program started with the support of the community foundation and the Pécs Bike Mafia (they gave HUF 100,000 each); PCF is launching an online campaign to raise additional funds.

Read more about PCF's work during the pandemic >>

THE FERENCVÁROS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION PROVIDES DIVERSE SUPPORT IN THE EMERGENCY SITUATION

In the present crisis situation, FCF provides, among other things, immediate assistance to those most in need, seeks out those who are not covered by the social safety net, and flexibly strengthens supported local NGOs.

A few days after the emergency was declared, the foundation provided an immediate crisis support of HUF 1 million to the Horizon Social Foundation, which, in turn, supports people in need throughout the district. In this situation, they are the ones who can make the most use of this money: disinfectants, detergents, toiletries, vitamins, immune boosters and fruits are regularly delivered to senior residents and those in need. FCF continues to raise funds from local citizens and companies for its Crisis Fund. The FCF is in regular contact with the district municipality, where the crisis centre coordinates donations and volunteers, among other things. The foundation seeks to find out which social groups need help in the current emergency situation, in addition to those who are obviously the most deprived.

FCF also helps foreigners connected to the district, as well as the organisations that work with them, with translating coronavirus-related information into English, to make sure those not speaking Hungarian very well are informed about the most important developments and the support available.

Find out more about FCF activities >>

THE ROOTS & WINGS FOUNDATION LOOKS TO THE FUTURE

Although the life of the foundation has been shaken by the coronavirus epidemic, we are doing our best to stand up to the challenge as a support organization in these difficult times.

We have provided the community foundations in Pécs and Ferencváros with an additional grant of HUF 1 million each in the emergency situation; the extra money can be used by the organisations as they deem necessary.

At the same time, we realise the value of our ongoing work and we are continuing to identify small-town community leaders. We believe that for them the financial and professional support our foundation can provide is more important now than ever.

We also considered it important for the foundation to take part in the development and dissemination of an online methodological guide for individuals and communities wishing to act and organise themselves during the lockdown. R&W just set up the ‘Leap into the Future’ Fund to support civic initiatives with grants totalling HUF 3.5 million (approximately €10,000). We seek to support local work that strengthens communities and solidarity while fighting the pandemic and offers the hope of building a more just, inclusive and sustainable world after the crisis.

Although we unfortunately had to postpone our Live Crowdfunding Event scheduled for May, we are exploring opportunities for effective online fundraising and other ways to support those civic projects that applied.

In short: we are open, please get in touch!

For more info, visit our website >>