

### A GUIDE FOR

# Youth Parliaments

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This publication was created as a support material for:

- the founders of youth parliaments,
- members and supporters of youth parliaments,
- representatives of local governments, whether elected, or employees of local governments who want to support the participation of young people in the life of the municipality or city,
- but also anyone who wants to be inspired by "HOW TO DO IT?"



## CONTENT



 Outline of the Legislation Youth Parliament of the town of Púchov Good examples of practice for the calendar year 2021 in the town of Púchov Children's and Youth Forum of the city of

- Prievidza





 Good Examples of Practice for the Calendar Year 2021 in the city of Prievidza



ING. SILVIA ŠTEFÁNIKOVÁ YOUTH WORK COORDINATOR OF THE TRENČÍN SELF-GOVERNING REGION Ing. Silvia Štefániková, as the youth work coordinator, is active not only in local and regional, but also in national youth policy. She implements her acquired knowledge and experience in the Regional Leisure Centre - Regional Youth Centre (RLC - RYC). She develops the cooperation of all entities in the field of youth work in the Trenčín region not only in the discussion but also in practice. She believes that young people know exactly what they need and that they can be of great benefit to community development. It is of great importance to direct them correctly and give them space. For our needs, she created an overview of legislation for youth parliaments.



## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE LIKE IS A REFLECTION OF HOW WE AFFECT THEM

Young people need space for self-development, but above all the trust and support from the school management, the city, and others who work with them. Slovakia is one of the few countries that can be proud of its legislative settings to support youth work and participation. It is a background that creates a wide space for cooperation, partnership approach, development of competencies of all involved, not only young people, but all those who trust them and create space for their self-realization. I believe that in this guide you will find inspiration, motivation, and good examples of practice from our two places in the region where the youth work has a "green light".

Silvia Štefániková



# OUTLINE OF LEGISLATION





## ACT NO.282/2008 COLL., ON YOUTH WORK SUPPORT

This law regulates the support of youth work, nonformal education in the area of youth work, youth work funding, accreditation of educational programmes in the area of youth work (hereinafter referred to as "accreditation") and voluntary service within the frame of youth work.



# DEFINITION OF BASIC TERMS (FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT)

a) a young person is a person who has reached the age of at most 30,

b) a youth is a group of at least three young people,

c) a young leader is a person who has reached the age of 15 and at most 17; has no criminal record and actively participates in organizing youth events under the guidance of a youth leader or a youth worker,

d) a youth leader is a person who has reached at least 18 years of age, has no criminal record and prepares, organizes and is responsible for realization of youth events,

e) a youth worker is a person who 1. supports youth in its personal development and the development of its knowledge, skills, and competencies, 2. prepares and organizes events or programs in the area of youth work 3. has the full legal capacity, 1) 4. is in an employment relationship2) with employers referred to in § 15 par. 2, conducts business on the basis of a trade license in the area of youth work or performs voluntary activities in the area of youth work, 2a) 5. has no criminal record,

## DEFINITION OF BASIC TERMS (FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT)

f) a youth work coordinator is a person with no criminal record, who plans, directs and coordinates youth work in relation to the competences of a municipality or higher territorial unit in the area of youth work,
g) a youth work lecturer is a person who has no criminal record and by means of educational activities develops the competences of youth workers, youth leaders, young leaders and other youth workers;

h) youth work is, in particular, an educational, training or youth participation activity carried out with and for the youth in order to ensure their personal, professional and social development via non-formal learning;

i) non-formal learning in the area of youth work is further education of youth, young leaders, youth leaders, workers and coordinators in order to acquire new knowledge, practical experience, competences and skills needed for youth work

# DEFINITION OF BASIC TERMS (FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT)

j) youth participation is the active involvement of youth in the process of planning, decision-making and realization of events and projects in the social and economic life.



## DELIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILIT § 4 - MESRAS SR

The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as "the Ministry") as the central state administrative body for state youth care, in particular

a) prepares strategic documents and conceptual documents of the state policy in the area of youth work,

b) creates legal conditions, organizational conditions, research conditions and financial conditions for the development of youth work, c) coordinates the activities of central state administrative bodies, local state administrative bodies, municipalities and self-governing regions and other natural persons and legal entities in the area of youth work, d) controls
and effective
from the state
e) decides of
f) analyses
g) financial
activities of
in the area of

d) controls economy, efficiency, practicality and effectiveness of the use of funds provided from the state budget for the youth work,

- e) decides on accreditation,
- f) analyses and evaluates the needs of youth, g) financially and methodically supports the activities of natural persons and legal entities in the area of youth work development.

## DELIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILIT **§ 5 - HIGHER TERRITORIAL UNIT**

The higher territorial unit within the youth care section creates and implements the conception of youth work development, evaluates its implementation and in accordance with it a) participates in the acquisition and analysis of information about youth within its competence,

b) supports the organization of youth work, c) supports the activities of youth with physical disabilities, youth from the socially disadvantaged backgrounds, youth from the least developed districts and youth disadvantaged in other ways, d) appoints a youth work coordinator, e) ensures the operation of educational facilities and their effective use,

youth work, area of youth work, territorial unit, service,

f) controls the effectiveness of the funds management provided from its budget for

- g) cooperates with natural persons and legal entities referred to in § 15 par. 2,
- h) participates in non-formal education in the
- i) arranges the youth work activities by the provision of funds from the budget of a higher
- j) supports the youth's involvement in voluntary
- k) supports the youth co-participation.

## DELIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILIT §6 – MUNICIPALITY

- (1) The municipality within the youth care section
- a) supports the realization of youth work in its territory,
- b) creates conditions for the youth work development,

c) supports the activities of youth with physical disabilities, youth from the socially disadvantaged backgrounds, youth from the least developed districts and youth disadvantaged in other ways,
d) cooperates with natural persons and legal entities referred to in § 15 par. 2,

e) supports the youth's participation in voluntary service, f) supports youth's co-participation

(2) The municipality may appoint a coordinator of youth work during the performance of selfgovernment.

(3) In addition to the competences concerned in paragraphs 1 and 2, the municipality that has been declared a city shall within the youth care section also draw up, implement, update the conception of the youth work development, and evaluate its implementation

## DELIMITATION OF RESPONSIBILIT **§6A - YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

### Youth Parliament

(1) A natural person, a legal entity or council of a higher territorial unit, except a municipality, may establish the youth parliament.

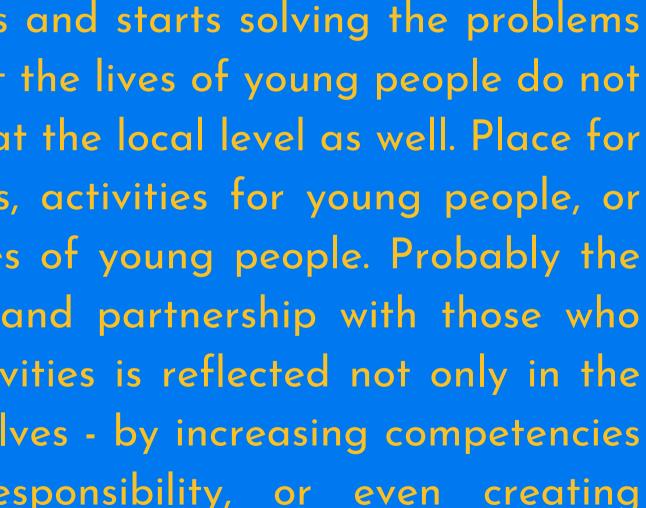
(2) The composition of the youth parliament, the manner of establishment of the youth parliament and the role of the youth parliament shall be determined by its founder in its statute.

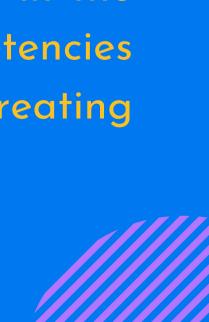
(3) The youth parliament in particular

a) discusses proposals concerning the improvement of youth work or impact the youth, b) cooperates with other school parliaments or youth parliaments, c) cooperates with other youth organizations in the Slovak Republic.

## YOUTH PARLIAMENT

If a young person becomes interested in their surroundings and starts solving the problems they encounter in the school environment, they will find that the lives of young people do not involve only the school and they want to develop activities at the local level as well. Place for meetings, the question of sports grouds, neglected spaces, activities for young people, or one's self-development are examples of the many activities of young people. Probably the most important part is the development of cooperation and partnership with those who make decisions at the local level. The impact of their activities is reflected not only in the change of environment and activities but mainly in themselves - by increasing competencies such as negotiating, submitting proposals, taking responsibility, or even creating relationships with the environment in which they operate.





## ACT NO. 596/2003 COLL. ON STATE ADMINISTRATION IN EDUCATION AND SCHOOL SELF-GOVERNMENT

This Act regulates the competences, organization, and tasks of state administrative bodies in the education, municipalities, self-governing regions and school selfgovernment bodies and determines their competence in the execution of state administration in education and school self-government, in the area of school networking and creation of school facilities of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred to as the "network"), inclusion, exclusion and changes in the network and establishment and cancellation of schools and school facilities.



## SCHOOL PARLIAMENTS

We shall further discuss the point (3) b) § 6a, which concerns the youth parliaments. It also talks about cooperation with school parliaments. School parliaments are defined in the Act No. 596/2003 Coll. on State Administration and on the Amendment of Certain Laws in § 26.

Here we have selected only parts that are closely related to the youth parliament. For more information, see the School of Democracy handbook.



## § 26 SCHOOL PARLIAMENT

(1) The school parliament represents primary and secondary school pupils and represents their interests in relation to the school headmaster, the senior teaching staff or the senior professional staff and externally.

(7) The school parliament

e) cooperates with the municipal youth parliament and the council of seniors, if established in the municipality,f) recommends its members to the municipal youth parliament, if established in the municipality, who may represent the school there,

g) via the municipal youth parliament cooperates with other school parliaments,





# PÚCHOV









## PAEDDR. ALENA STRÝČKOVÁ THE DIRECTOR OF LC VČIELKA PÚCHOV, YOUTH WORK COORDINATOR OF THE TOWN OF PÚCHOV

During her whole professional life, she has been working with children and young people. In 2013, she became the director of the Leisure Center in Púchov. She is also the youth work coordinator in Púchov and works with the Youth Parliament. Youth work motivates her and, according to her words, brings her forward: "It's mainly about great relationships, friendships, and bonds. For me personally, young people have taught me a lot and I feel that working with them has great value."





## YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF THE TOWN OF PÚCHOV

### **SHORTENED: YPTP**



The Youth Parliament of the town of Púchov has in its membership base nominated representatives of the Mládežnícka Primary School, Gorazdova PS, J. A. Komenského PS, Slovanská PS, Púchov grammar school, and Religious Primary School of Saint Margita. There are also representatives of secondary schools in the city, namely I. Krasku Secondary School and SOŠOaS in Púchov, as well as other young people and volunteers from the ranks of high school students who attend secondary schools outside Púchov. The YPTP also covers anyone between the ages of 13 and 30 who is interested in participating in active work in any field in accordance with their action plan.





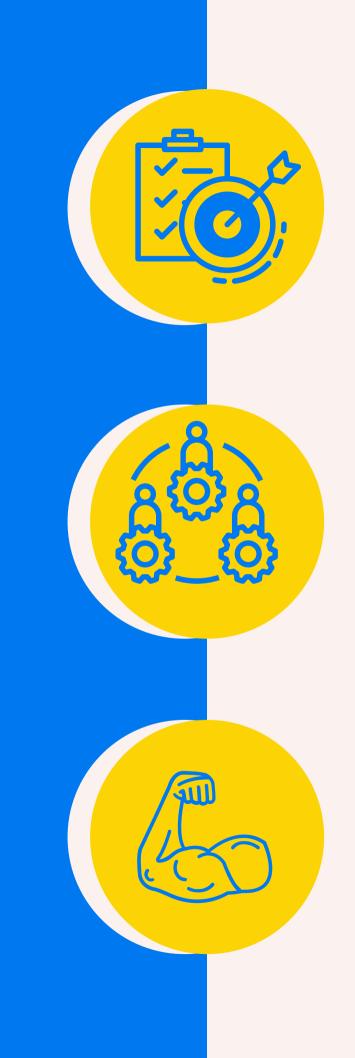


Through regular meetings and planned and implemented activities, the YPTP fulfills the objectives of the youth policy of the town of Púchov, which are set out in the Youth Work Conception for the period 2019 - 2023.

The Youth Action Plan is approved by the Commission for Education, Social Security, Culture and Youth in November and December of the following calendar year. It is published on the website www.cvcvcielka.sk as a banner Youth Parliament of Púchov.



## WHAT NOT TO FORGET

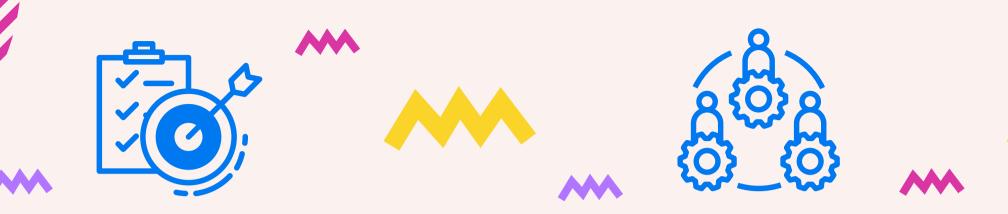




## Goals of the Youth Parliament Meeting

### Target group

### Responsibility



### GOALS

- planning of volunteering activities, activities for various target groups,
- identifying the needs of young people in the town/city,
- exchanging experience with youth parliaments of other cities,
- evaluation of the implementation of activities and fulfillment of the work plan,
- planning of cooperation with local self-government and participation in public affairs.

### **TARGET GROUP**

 young people of the town of Púchov, aged 13 - 30 years



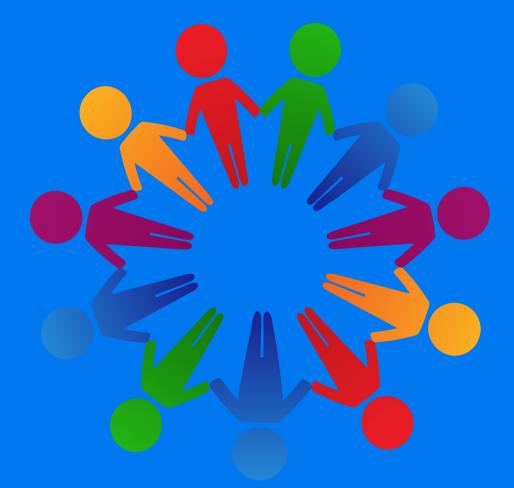
### RESPONSIBILITY

 youth work coordinator of the town of Púchov

## PARTICIPATION

The topic of young people's participation in public affairs in the town of Púchov has been very resonant in the last two years. At the beginning of 2019, the "youth" was included in the Education, Social Security and Culture Commission (now also the Youth Commission), and the Youth Work Coordinator officially became a member of this commission. In 2019, they involved young people in setting up the Youth Work Conception in the town, which was unanimously adopted by members of the Town Council in December.





Members of the YPTP actively cooperated in setting the Action Plan for Youth Work for the years 2020 and 2022. In 2019, but also in 2021, they were given the opportunity to present the activities of the YPTP at the meeting of the Town Council (TC). Their immediate intention is to set up cooperation with the TC deputy and the town mayor in the form of a Memorandum of Cooperation between the YPTP and the municipality so that young people have the opportunity to get acquainted with the functioning of local self-government and to be sufficiently informed to whom they can submit their suggestions and comments as representatives of young people in town.







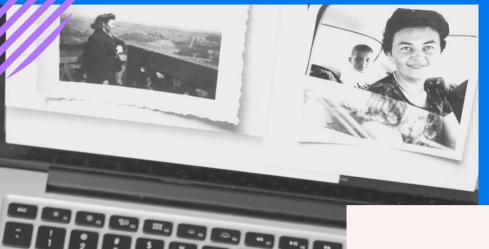
GOOD EXAMPLES OF PRACTICE IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021 IN THE TOWN OF PÚCHOV

Inspirational paths, examples of how the Youth Parliament of the town of Púchov carried out its activities efficiently and effectively.









# YOUTH ACTIVITIES PANDEMIC





## TALENT VIA NET

Activity Name: Date of activity: Location: Activity type: Goal:

Talent via Net 31. 1. - 18. 3. 2021 (two and a half months) Meetings via Zoom and promotion via social networks. Slovak talent competition for the general public. To devise and implement an activity for the general public. Learn how to prepare an activity from the beginning up to the activity evaluation. Number of young people from YPTP involved: 15 + 2 coordinators

Number of participants who participated in different areas as competitors: 27, result list attached as a picture.







spev, tanec, prednes, výtvarné umenie, alebo čokoľvek, v čom vynikáš na: talentceznet@gmail.com Messenger Mládežnícky parlament mesta Púchov

## ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

- 31.1. the idea of organizing a competition show like this,
- 1.2. setting up a project team, msg group,
- 2.2. brainstorming for the creation of competition name via the Mentimeter application,
- 4.2. 7.2. poster designs and voting for the best design, setting up the competition rules - categories, method of sending ...,
- 7.2. creating of an email address

- contestants

• 8.2. - addition of rules for the winning poster design, • 8.2. - launch and promotion - Fb, newspaper, website, • 8.2. - 14.2. collecting, tracking and downloading entries from

## **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION**

prize awarding + diploma proposal,

- 15.3. writing and printing of the diplomas, which were then signed by the chairman,
- 16.3. communication by e-mail and through messages participants, whether we with their can use contributions in the video and how the prizes will be
  - delivered,
- handling the prizes to those who are not able to come

- 16.3. preparation and packaging of prices, 16.3. - editing and publishing video no. 1 - category vv, 17.3. - editing and publishing video no. 2 - dance, 18.3. - editing and publishing video no. 3 - singing, promoting results in newspapers and on the web and
- in person.

Mládežnícky parlament mesta Púchov

a CVČ Včielka Púchov



Výsledková listina súťaže

### TALENT CEZ NET 2021

Kategória naj tanec:

Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Nadia Andrews Tamarka Koncová Sofinka Belianská

Klárka Kubiková

Martinko Pavel

Katka Košecká

Elinka Divinska

Tomáško Tobis Terezka Ladecká

Simonko Cibik

Max Kubik

Sára Lenhart

Terezka Zelenáková Katka Churnchálová

Adela Škrovánková

Zofka Kubiková

Lucka Miková

Sofinka Haliaková

Kategória naj umelecké výtvarné diela, vek 5 – 6 rokov:



Kategória naj multi talent:

Ocenenie poroty práce detí z MŠ Mládežnícka Púchov Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty

Kategória naj umelecké výtvarné diela, vek 7 – 10 rokov: Ocenenie poroty

Kategória naj umelecké výtvarné diela, vek 11 – 16 rokov: Hlavná cena Cena mládežníckeho parlamentu Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty

Kategória naj hra na hudobný nástroj: Hlavná cena

Hlavná cena. Ocenenie poroty Ocenenie poroty

Kategória naj umelecká fotografia Havná cena Kategória naj spev Hlavná cena Cona CVČ Cena mládežníckeho parlamentu

Cena pre naitalentovanejšiu cukrárku: Cena pre naimladšieho účastníka kategória spev a tanec:

Klárka Muráriková Natálka Masariková Tamarka Reváková

Martin Fainer Simonka Hüževková Keira Correale Svetlana Oružinská

Vision Visgosia Viktorka Masariková



team meeting via Zoom - evaluation of contributions,



Mládežnícky parlament mesta Púchov 20. marca 2021 · 🚱

O tom, že je u nás veľa talentovaných detí svedčia aj príspevky do kategórie naj tanec a naj multitalent v našej súťaži Talent cez Net. Vydržať až do konca sa rozhodne vyplatí. Nech sa páči - video č. 2 z vyhodnotenia vysledkov prehliadky talentov. Ešte je v poradí video z kategórie spev a cukrárka. Máte sa na čo tešiť **VV** 

...



**Evaluation methods:** reflection with the members of the organizing committee, what they did best and what they have to work on in the future, interview, feedback from the participants.

Promotion: Fb Mládežnícky parlament mesta Púchov

Links to the videos posted: • https://www.facebook.com/106217474819619/videos/8407

- https://www.facebook
   23943452601/
- https://www.facebook
   561817789146/
- https://www.facebook
   6487351572

https://www.facebook.com/106217474819619/videos/4022

https://www.facebook.com/106217474819619/videos/43956

## DON'T BE WÍK /WEEK, WEAK/

Activity name: Date of activity: Location: Activity type: Goal:

Don't Be Wik / week, weak / 5.7. - 20.8. 2021 (7 weeks), we used the summer period holidays Meetings and communication via the created messenger group Teambuilding activity for YPTP members To support each other in fulfilling the assigned calls. Number of involved young people from YPTP: 21 + 2 coordinators







## ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The "Don't be wik" activity was devised for the whole group by one of the members of parliament who also led it. The title ambiguously includes both words "week" and "weak". Through a Messenger group, they first determined the interest among members and at the same time set up a msg group with the name of the activity. For each week, from Monday to Friday, a challenge was assigned, during which members could meet up and inform each other about their progress while fulfilling it. The evaluation phase occurred on Saturday and Sunday. The challenge was announced to the members every Sunday before the start of the challenge week. The member of the group was not obliged to participate in each week, he was to choose which challenge he wanted to participate in. 12.7. - 16.7. 2021, Book Week - the challenge was for everyone to read any book for at least 30 minutes a day. More was allowed, less was not. The goal for members was to find time to read the books they were delaying reading and finally read them. The readers motivated each other, informed each other about what books they read, came up with good tips for books, and borrowed books from each other. If someone wants to have good statistical results, it is recommended to specify exactly how they should report the activity when entering the particular week. E.g. report the number of minutes spent reading, + the number of pages read.

The total free time devoted by members involved in this week was: 3464 minutes (60,76 hrs).

By days: Monday: 880 min (14,66 hrs), Tuesday: 993 min. (16,55 hrs.), Wednesday: 640 min. (10,66 hrs), Thursday: 533 min. (8,88 hrs), Friday: 600 min. (10 hrs).

## **POSSIBILITIES**:

- accumulates,...
- transport rather than cars,
- bags, bring your own canvas bag,...
- sorting,...
- "secondhand", or exchanging clothes,
- plastics to a minimum.

collecting garbage, paying attention to where it

• go everywhere on foot or by bicycle, or use public choose groceries in the store wisely - do not buy plastic bottles, do not pack anything in microtine • trying to generate as little waste as possible, waste

 not buying new clothes, but rather shopping trying to live zero waste as much as possible, limiting When evaluating the performance of tasks, the members always communicated, what they have noticed during the day, and what challenges they managed to do. Many used the possibility of moving from place to place differently than before and one member, for example, bought containers for sorting waste at home, which he had been preparing to do for a long time. They used mesh and canvas bags for their grocery shopping or other purchases.

Activity evaluation methods: interview and questions, statements of participants in the msg group, feedback of participants. They also continuously evaluated each activity. Where possible, they also evaluated figures.

### NAMES OF WEEKS AND CHALLENGES

- 5. 7. 9. 7. 2021: Be ActiWeek
- 12. 7. 16. 7. 2021: Book Week
- 19. 7. 23. 7. 202: EcoWeek
- 26. 7. 30. 7. 2021: Vegetarian week
- 2. 8. 6. 8. 2021: AddictionFreeWeek
- 9. 8. 13. 8. 2021: Socialization without Networks
- 16. 8. 20. 8. 2021: SelfCareWeek





### CLEAN YOUR SURROUNDINGS

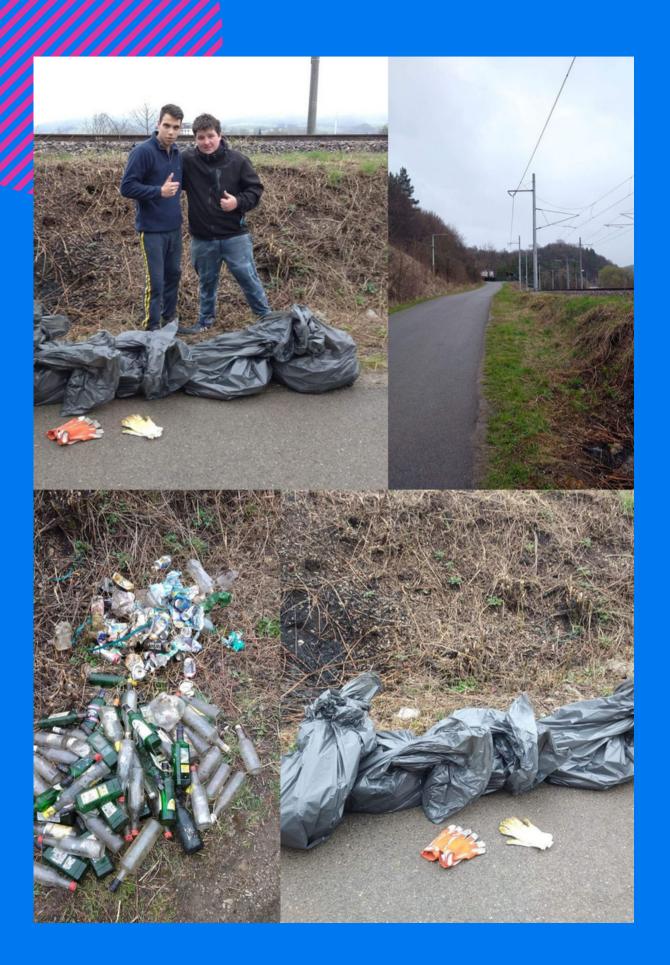
Activity name: Date of activity: Location: Activity type:

Goal:

Clean Your Surroundings 12. 4. - 30. 4. 2021 The town of Púchov and its surroundings Environmental protection activity intended for YPTP members and the public. To mobilize young people to care about the cleanliness of their surroundings. Number of young people from YPTP involved: 39 young people + 1 coordinator







Through an Internet challenge and the creation of a poster for the challenge, young people published the idea of cleaning their surroundings and collecting garbage. During the lockdown, it was possible to participate in the challenge individually or in small groups. The results, photos, and activities were documented through reports and statuses under the invitation on the poster on Facebook of "Mládežnícky parlament mesta Púchov" (Youth parliament of the town of Púchov). 39 young people participated and collected 42 bags of waste. They recommend realizing this activity in the spring when the grass is not yet tall.







### SHOPPING FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE IN QUARANTINE

Activity name: Date of activity: Location: Type of activity:

Goal:

From Young People to Seniors with Love From February 2021 every Wednesday to the present The town of Púchov Voluntary activity carried out in cooperation with the local government To teach young people how to help seniors and people in quarantine. Number of young people from YPTP involved: 3 young people + 1 coordinator per week

Employees of the Department of Social Affairs in Púchov announced the possibility of shopping at the initiative of the mayor of the town in the local newspaper. The target group was seniors and people who remained in quarantine due to pandemic measures.



Anyone who was interested in using this shopping service called the phone number published in the announcement for the first call it was the gatehouse number, later the seniors communicated directly with the coordinator. They set aside Wednesdays for this activity. Members of parliament who are available that particular day always go shopping. The coordinator finds out who is interested via the YPTP chat (Messenger).

- pharmacy,
- the pharmacy,
- the purchase.

The procedure for shopping for seniors is as follows: pick up the shopping list and money / the insurance card, if the list also includes medicine from the

• go shopping according to the list and for medicine to

deliver the purchase to seniors also with a receipt

When shopping, young people acquire a better orientation in the store - in which part of the store different groceries are. They often look for groceries from the list that seniors have listed from the chain store flyer. In this way, they learn to manage finances, and they also learn responsibilities: they are responsible for someone else's money and documenting expenses with the receipt. Last but not least, they communicate with seniors, listen to their life stories, gain a different perspective on someone else's life situation and they do a good deed free of charge.

### Shopping procedure for guarantined people:

- communication takes place exclusively by telephone, as this is usually a person who has positive covid test result,
- the list will be sent via text, or together with the delivery address via Messenger,
- they deliver the purchase with the receipt only to the door, they communicate by phone,
- people will send the money to the account number that was sent to them (depending on who paid for the purchase).

When making this purchase, it is necessary to pay attention to the safety of shoppers sof that they do not come into contact with the positive person.

### MOST CREATIVE EKO PICNIC

Activity title: Date of activity: Location: Type of activity:

Goal:

Creative Creating at an Eco Picnic in the Park 7.8.2021 Park near the County House in Púchov Volunteer activity realized in cooperation with OZ Podivný Baron and OZ Potvora for the general public To encourage young people to be creative from the organizer's point of view. Number of involved young people from YPTP: 9 + 1 coordinator torka







Involvement in cooperation with civic associations in town and realization of an event for families with children. The goal was to diversify an afternoon for the families - they could come and make something creative in the park. At the same time, they wanted to point out that tools for various entertainment, games, and leisure activities can also be made from recycled materials: cardboard, polystyrene, recycled plastic. All attractions at the event were made by hand from such materials. It was for example cardboard maze, a dart-board, a cardboard tictac-toe, a maze for throwing balls - also from waste material. Volunteers were at these sites, but also at sites where jewelry was made from waste material, recycling old T-shirts and making new pieces with various modifications painting, cutting, etc.

### CHILDREN'S CORNER AT THE PÚCHOV FAIR

Activity name: Date of activity: Location: Type of activity:

Goal:

Children's Corner at the Púchov fair 18. 9. 2021 Park near the County House in Púchov Voluntary activity carried out in cooperation with the local government of the town of Púchov To make visible the work of our volunteers at the town event Number of involved young people from YPTP: 17 + 1 coordinator

The young volunteers undertook the task of preparing an accompanying fair program for families with children. They prepared 5 fun disciplines for children and distributed them around the park. The families started at the first post, where they got a card, on which was also an orientation map of the posts in the park. They received a stamp for each completed postcard at each post.

### DISCIPLINES

- Cubes participants had to throw a large cube made of polystyrene and according to the number they got, they fulfilled the task written on a large poster. Tasks according to the numbers were: 1 - sing a song, 2 recite a poem, 3 - determine the colors according to the questions, 4 - calculate a simple math problem (for smaller children - count to 5), 5 - dance, 6 - name some plants/flowers;
- Finding the ball under the cups following the volunteer who shuffles the cups and then guess under which cup the ball is located;
- Croquet a purchased game with bats and wooden balls, which is played outside and the task is to go through all the set gates;
- Frisbee hitting a target with a frisbee;
- Puzzle on a gingerbread house they made a gingerbread house from cardboard and, according to the shape of the gingerbread house, the gingerbreads were attached to the roof with velcro.

The last post was also a "finish line", where everyone who went through all the posts and tasks received a sweet reward. The rewards were provided by the Municipal Office (MO)













# **3. YPTP ACTIVITIES** GOVERNMENT



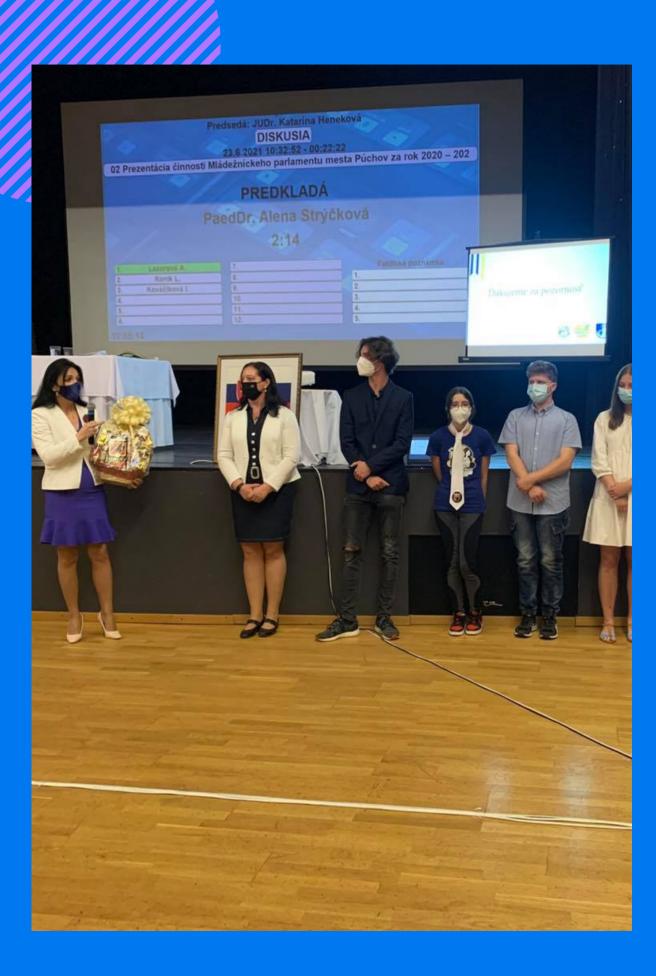
# PRESENTATION OF YPTP ACTIVITIES AT THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Activity name: Activity date: Location: Type of Activity: Goal: Presentation of activities at the Town Council (TC) meeting June 23, 2021 Púchov Theater, place of TC Promotion and presentation of YPTP activities To raise the awareness of young people's work and volunteering activities in our city.

Number of involved young people from YPTP: 8 + 2 coordinators

Representatives of the Youth Parliament of the Town of Púchov were given the opportunity by the mayor of the city to be included in the program of the Town Council (we recommend it in the beginning, among the first points).





Via pre-arranged presentation and in cooperation with an employee of TC, who technically provides the entire TC, young people presented the activities of the YPTP. They prepared a presentation, but also posters from various areas of their activities. TC Deputy had the opportunity to comment on and evaluate their activities. At the same time, they had the opportunity to invite members of the Council for a discussion with young people. Participants also had the opportunity to express hope for the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation with the local government and the parliamentary group. YPTP representatives practiced their presentation and communication skills and had the opportunity to invite deputies to carry out their future activities.

DISCUSSION FORUMS WITH DEPUTIES OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ENTITLED "A WORD WITH DEPUTIES" A Word with Deputies (implemented with the support Activity name: of Youth Council of the Trenčín Region) Date of the activity: 24.11. 2021, a total of 6 discussions with deputies planned - counted with the no. of 19 deputies and three / four at one meeting (activity is still in progress) Youth Club, in the case of worsened COVID situation Location: online space and Zoom can be used Discussion forum with the representatives of the city council Type of activity: Goal: To get to know the deputies of the town council. To familiarize young people with the functioning of local government and with activity deputies of the town council Purpose of activity: To write a Memorandum of Cooperation between the YPTP and the deputies Town Council (TC) of the town of Púchov.



Due to the pandemic situation, only 6 people could take part in the discussion on the spot. Another 20 members and 1 coordinator attended via Instagram and live broadcast. The video on 28 November 2021 has 104 views. They wanted to follow up on the previous activity presenting the YPTP's activities at the TC meeting. They invited three members of the TC to the discussion and started the discussion with the members of the Commission for Education, Social Security, Culture, and Youth at the Ministry of Education. Together, they set out a series of questions that they wanted to ask the deputies to get to know them and at the same time learn information that could help them understand how the local government works. The discussion was opened by the youth coordinator and led by two members of parliament as moderators,



# MEMBERS





EDUCATIONAL WEEKEND ACTIVITIES Education AKTIV - Heroes of Everyday Life Activity name: Two-weekend training courses with an intermediate phase Activity date: of 5 weeks Any suitable accommodation Location: Education of YPTP members Type of activity: To motivate young people to become a member Goal: of the YPTP.

The Youth Coordinator asks the primary or secondary schools and grammar schools in town to nominate the required number of members for education. It depends on which age structure she needs to supplement due to the changing circumstances within the YPTP.

Recommended sources: AKTIV – hrdinovia všedného dňa: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1\_pMsIPW6f-lqQjLZWDMn2CqnEs7IMxBi/view; https://youthwatch.sk/publikacie/

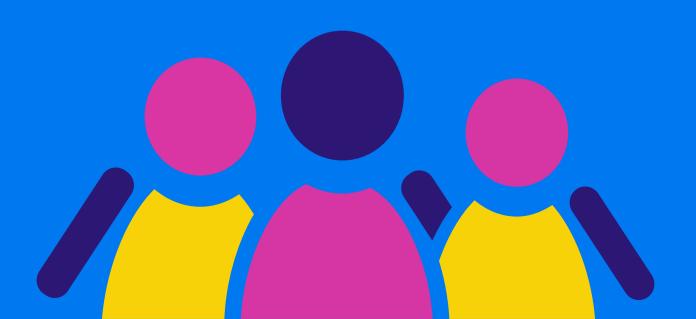


The gim is to teach young people to set up and implement a small volunteer project for their surroundings. The training takes place in the form of two educational weekends, between which there is an interphase lasting 5 weeks. In the first weekend of non-formal education, young people will be taught what they need to know to be able to carry out their small volunteer project in the team, introduce them to goals, activities, resources, teamwork, feedback principles, timetable, what can jeopardize their project, presentation of the project, and what they should expect. Subsequently, they have their mentor in the "intermediate phase" - one of the training lecturers, who can advise them or motivate them if they lose interest. Areas of volunteering activities: e.g. cleaning your surroundings, eco-activities, planting trees, volunteering activities for the elderly, activities for children's homes, performances, and activities for different age groups, volunteering activities for their school, anything a young person can do for their surroundings, or for other young people in their surroundings. The second weekend of the training is focused on the evaluation of the implemented activities and the interest of young people in public affairs through activities and LARP games. This form of recruitment (education) has proved its worth in motivating young people to become members of the YPTP.

### DIRECT RECRUITMENT OF MEMBERS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Activity name: Date of activity: Location: Type of activity: Goal: Direct Recruitment in Schools September, the beginning of the school year All primary or secondary schools in the city as required Recruitment and motivation of new YPTP members To motivate young people to become a member of the YPTP







Members of parliament prepare presentations of their activities on posters, which can be transferred to classes of individual primary schools, secondary schools, and grammar schools. Following an agreement with school principals, or coordinators of Studnets' School Councils at schools, YPTP members can present their activities from the past period to pupils of the desired years - e.g. 8th and 9th grades of elementary school, grammar school, or 1st and 2nd grades of high school. They set the exact date of the following meeting with the opportunity to attend for those, who are interested in the activity. The recruitment proved successful to them, as 22 new people interested in the activity took part in the meeting according to the attendance list.

# CONCLUSION

"The work of the Youth Parliament, maintaining motivation and gaining new members for our activities is not easy. We succeed mainly through teambuilding activities, or simply the interest of young people to help their surroundings. It requires time and willingness to hear out young people, to support them and their initiative. We wish all those who have decided to work with young people a lot of success and motivation. Perhaps they could also be inspired by our FB page "Mládežnícky Parlament mesta Púchov" and our teambuilding activities, where for the post of lecturers we can contract the oldest members of the team who have already gone through educational activities and can pass them on. It is a motivation for other team members. You can find our other activities on the Fb website of the Púchov Youth Parliament and on Instagram: mp\_puchov."



PaedDr. Alena Strýčková





# PRIEVIDZA











# MGR. KATARÍNA CIFRÍKOVÁ

WORKER **CITY OF PRIEVIDZA** 

After graduating from high school, she started working in education as a school caretaker. Since 2008 she has become an employee of the LC in Prievidza, where she took over the work with the youth after p. M. Málichová. In the same year, she initiated the establishment of the Children's and Youth Forum in the city of Prievidza, which still operates today. In the school year 2018/2019, she had the position of the Youth Council Coordinator during its formation and it functioned as an advisory body to the City Council in Prievidza. She methodically helps secondary and primary school boards by organizing educational processes, workshops, and conferences. "Working with young people is an endless process, full of inspiration, motivation, fun, lifelong friendships, and new ideas. For me, it is a driving force for further work and self-development. It gives me meaning, gratification and feelings of joy from accomplished goals."



### COORDINATOR OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PRIEVIDZA, PEDAGOGICAL OF THE LEISURE CENTRE PRIEVIDZA, YOUTH COORDINATOR OF THE



CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH FORUM IN THE CITY OF PRIEVIDZA

Children's and Youth Forum in Prievidza is an informal group that facilitates dialogue between the city's young people, children and youth workers, youth organizations and city representatives. Attendance at its meetings is voluntary and not bound by membership.













### The meetings are attended by:

- representatives of secondary school (SS) and primary school (PS) boards operating in the city of Prievidza,
- representatives of non-governmental organizations working with children and youth operating in the city of Prievidza,
- youth, young leaders, youth leaders, youth workers with permanent residence in Prievidza, working or studying at primary schools, secondary schools, and universities in Prievidza,
- deputies, staff of the MO and representatives of the city of Prievidza,
- other people who engage in or influence youth work in the city.





# GOALS

The aim of the Prievidza Children and Youth Forum is to contribute to the improvement of mutual information and cooperation by initiating meetings with representatives of deputies and local governments. It enables the mutual exchange of experience, knowledge, abilities, ideas, attitudes to life, and the opportunities of children and young people at schools, in the city, and in society. It contributes to streamlining of the work of formal and non-formal education components. It creates conditions for co-decision and influences the development and direction of the city's youth policy. It supports young people's interest in public affairs, their motivation, and cooperation in further work.





# SIGNIFICANCE

Through the forum, they find out the needs of young people, information about their lives, stimuli for activities, events, competitions that people active in the field of youth work could organize. Forum meetings are held 3 times a year. They take place on the premises of the LC unless the participants of the forum agree otherwise. All participants decide on the activities and goals of the forum.

The forum meetings are divided into two parts. In the first part, we deal with the current situation in the city and the problems that young people are interested in. The representatives of the city and an organization that deals with the issue both comment on those problems and situations. In the second part, the participants work in sections that focus on their specific problems, prepare various activities and events.





# DIVISION

There are four sections within the forum:

- primary school section,
- secondary schools and youth organizations section,
- youth workers section,
- methodological section.

The methodological section has a special role. Its task is to edit important documents of the city into the language of young people, to hold educational workshops, to create and print various methodological materials such as "Children's Rights", "Self-Government in a Nutshell", "Volunteer Week" and others.





# FORUM COMMITTEE → YOUTH COUNCIL

At the end of 2013, the Forum Committee was established and consisted of representatives of individual sections. The committee prepared and lead the meetings of the Prievidza Children and Youth Forum. They negotiated with representatives of the city, represented the forum to the public, helped in the preparation of events, and fulfilled the assignments. In September 2018, the Forum Committee was transformed into the Youth Council, which became an advisory body to the Prievidza City Council.

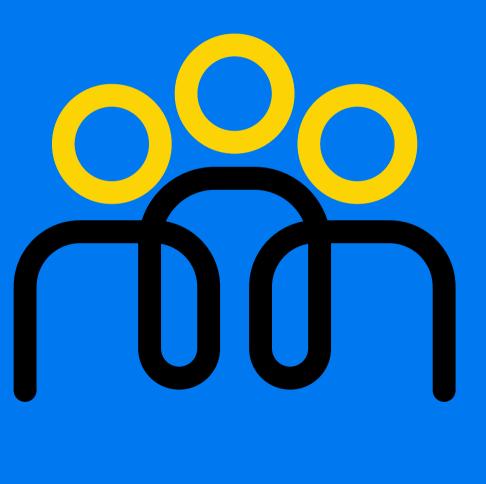




# YOUTH COUNCIL

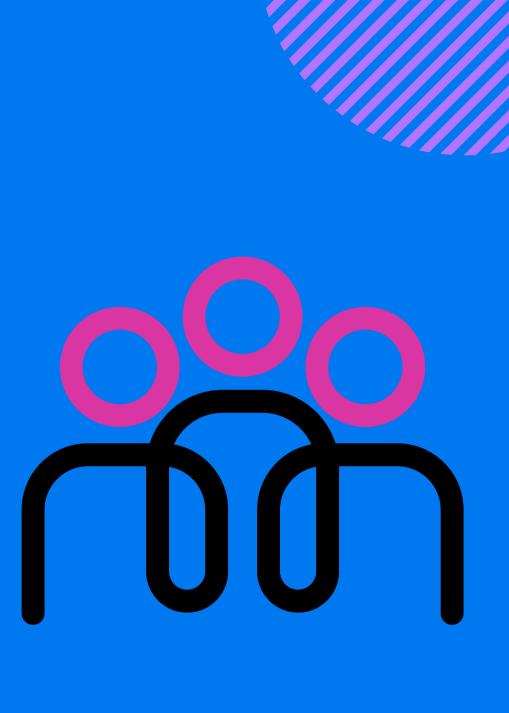
The Youth Council (YC) is an advisory body of the Municipal Council in Prievidza, which operates on the basis of the Statute of the Youth Council, approved by the members of the City Council (CC) on 30 April 2018. Its member may become a person who has reached the age of 12 and is under the age of 30 at the beginning of his/her term of office and was delegated by the students' school board of a primary or secondary school based in the city of Prievidza or an individual actively working with children and youth in the city of Prievidza.





# YOUTH COUNCIL

The term of office of a board member is one year. The meetings of the Council shall be convened and led by its chairman, elected by its members at the first meeting convened by the Commission of Sport, Youth, and Leisure and led by its chairman. At this meeting, the nominees also elect a committee to assist the chairman with the work between Youth Board (YB) meetings. This year, the committee has 5 members. It meets in person or online every Monday afternoon. The YC and the committee are assisted both methodologically and organizationally by the coordinator Mgr. Katarína Cifríková, who participates in all meetings. The Youth Council usually meets ten times a year. The mayor, deputies of the CC, and employees of the MO take part in the meetings as necessary.



# MISSION OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL

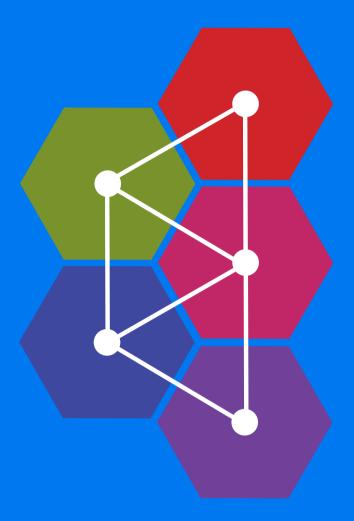
- a) to ensure closer contact of young people with the city authorities,
- b) to help promote the interests, needs and requirements of this category of the population,
- c) to apply the professional knowledge, experience and skills of young people in the fulfillment of the city's tasks, namely the tasks towards children and youth resulting from the Strategy for the Development of Youth Work in the City of Prievidza until 2023,
- d) to initiate and organize activities for the youth of the city of Prievidza.



# ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH COUNCIL

The Youth Council convenes the Children's and Youth Forum in Prievidza three times a year. In addition to regular meetings, it prepares and organizes various events for young people in cooperation with the Leisure Center, e.g. Youth Day, Youth for Prievidza - Volunteer Week, Education of Young Leaders in Prievidza, sports events (Easter Volleyball Tournament - mix of teams, St. Nicholas Bowling Tournament, Sports Day and others), Conference of Students' School Boards of Prievidza primary schools, Conference of Pupils' Schools Parliaments of the Upper Nitra region, etc.

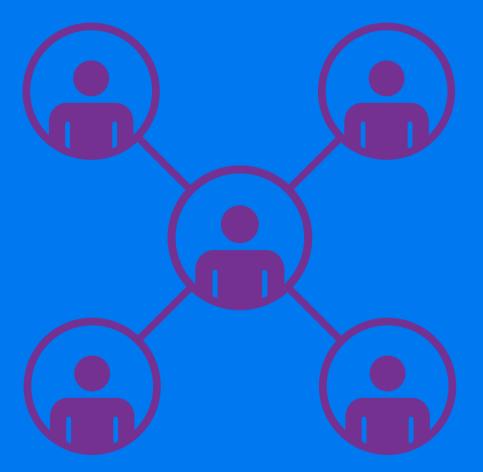




# MEMBERS OF YOUTH COUNCIL

The members of the council are actively involved in the creation and commenting of conceptual materials in the field of youth work in our city and region. They subsequently cooperate with young people in other cities in the Trenčín region, and at the same time abroad as well. They take part in various educational activities, exchanges, and international projects. They are actively involved in raising funds, in promoting and organizing the activities of the Youth Council.





# LC PRIEVIDZA

Work with youth is covered by the Leisure Center (LC), Ulica K. Novackého 14, 97101 Prievidza. It provides free space, material, technical, organizational, and methodological support. It helps to organize activities and events initiated by the Children's and Youth Forum. Since the Youth Council does not have a legal capacity of all funds, sponsorship donations and material assistance is gained through the LC.





## CITY OF PRIEVIDZA

The city of Prievidza was one of the first cities in Slovakia to have an advisory body set up at the city council, namely the Commission for Youth and Leisure Activities, which in 2007 approved the first two-year Concept for the Development of Youth Work in the City of Prievidza. At present, they have a third concept in operation, namely the Strategy for the Development of Youth Work in the City of Prievidza until 2023. In 2015, the Youth Commission was united with the Commission for Sport, and the Commission for Sport, Youth and Leisure Activities was created to cover youth policy in the city. Since 2007, the commission has also had its own subsidy system at its disposal, through which it supports entities active in the field of youth work operating in our city (a different subsidy amount is approved each year, from 5,000 to 10,000 per year).



## CITY OF PRIEVIDZA

Every year since 2017, youth organizations have the opportunity to obtain funding from the participatory budget (the amount of 40 thousand euros). Youth work is also influenced by other strategic materials of the city and advisory bodies such as document Transformation of the Upper Nitra Coal Region, Prievidza City Development Program 2016 - 2023, annual plans for the development of youth work, the Commission of Education and Culture near City Council (CC) in Prievidza and others. In the years 2018 - 2020, the city of Prievidza participated in the project "Region and Cities Together for Youth of Trenčín Self-Governing Region". Part of the project was to create a network of youth work coordinators in individual cities of the Trenčín region. Since 2018, the city of Prievidza also has had a youth work coordinator - LC employee Mgr. Katarína Cifríková.











GOOD EXAMPLES OF PRACTICE IN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2021 IN THE CITY OF PRIEVIDZA

Inspirational paths, examples of how the Prievidza City Council carried out its activities efficiently and effectively.





The training of young leaders in Prievidza is prepared by the Youth Council with the organizational assistance of the LC. In 2021, its third year took place. 22 young people aged 12-18 applied. The previous two years of education were completed by 41 participants, who carried out a total of 38 small projects. In 2021, the participants prepared 22 project plans, which they are gradually implementing. The implementation of projects is greatly affected by current quarantine measures. The deadlines for the implementation of some projects are being postponed and many participants have had to make adjustments and even change their project intentions. There was also a transfer of the final meeting from December 2021 to the beginning of the year 2022. In 2021, education was supported by the grant scheme of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sports of the Slovak Republic Youth Programs 2014-2021, administered by IUVENTA - Slovak Youth Institute. from the city of Prievidza, Brose Prievidza, spol. s r.o., the Leisure Center in Prievidza and Hajcman o.z.



Education is aimed at supporting youth work in the city of Prievidza, in the school councils of secondary and primary schools through non-formal education, which mainly operates for the development of an approach to acquiring important skills, such as teamwork, communication, active citizenship, or critical thinking. Its goal is to motivate young people to participate in the life of their community, organization, school, city, high school, and elementary school councils. The training is based on the national project KomPrax, which was implemented in the years 2011 - 2015 by luventa - Slovak Youth Institute. Its aim is to enable young people to acquire competencies that are not sufficiently provided to them in a school environment and which they need for successful employment in the youth field and in the labor market. Young people are also gaining arguments as to why it is important to take part in nonformal education and what they can gain in their personal and professional lives.



Through education, participants will get to know other young people, and thus they will develop their social and personal skills, which are the key to people's successful implementation in practice. By using various informal activities and practical exercises, the participants will try everything important needed for the implementation of the project and in further work with youth. Education enables young people to take responsibility for the environment in which they live and to respond to the needs in their environment, to organize a small project, and thus to verify their competencies in practice. Thanks to the positive experience, the project motivates young people to continue working on themselves and to participate in the life of their community, school, and city.



Education is divided into two main parts, which support each other and form a logical unit. On one hand, there are activities aimed at education (acquiring and strengthening the competencies) of young people and the associated development of the personal competencies of the participants. On the other hand, education includes the preparation, implementation and evaluation of a small project. Thus, a small project is a means through which young people acquire and verify competencies in the field of communication, presentation, team cooperation (teambuilding), financial literacy, project thinking, etc. They will receive financial support of 50 euros for its implementation. The training takes place on the premises of LC and in recreational facilities in the cities of Prievidza and Bojnice. The target group consists of young people, primary and secondary school pupils, members of school boards and youth organizations aged 12-18 with operation in the city of Prievidza.





During the training, participants will gain the ability to work in a team, communicate effectively, the ability to set a goal and create a plan to meet it, present their ideas and plans, create a financial budget and the costs of their plan with help, ability to motivate themselves and others, get an idea of their abilities and skills and learn how to affect others as young leaders, as well as gaining confidence from their successes and learning from overcoming obstacles.

The training consists of three weekends (each part is two days and one night) over a period of four calendar months. Due to anti-pandemic measures, the second year and the ongoing education had to be adjusted in terms of both time and content.



## II. training



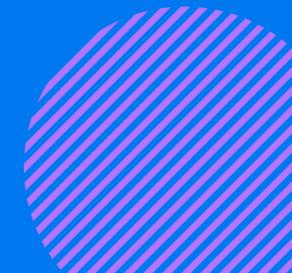


**III. training** 



## I. TRAINING

The first training is focused on creating a good atmosphere, acquainting participants, developing communication and presentation skills, understanding the differences between formal, non-formal and informal learning, analyzing the needs of young people and their problems in the city, developing teamwork and team leadership, on motivational factors in youth work and on the correct giving of feedback.





## II. TRAINING

During the second training, participants work with their own ideas on how to solve the problems and needs of young people around them. Under the guidance of trainers, they will develop their own small project plan, while also gaining basic knowledge of the project cycle and project management. In the end, they will receive a financial contribution of  $50 \in$  and a "Guide to a Small Project Plan", which should help them in the implementation of their projects.





## "INTERMEDIATE PERIOD"

In the interval between the second and third meetings, the participants implement their small project with the individual support of the trainers - consultations, through the Messenger group and the Facebook page. They cooperate with other young people, friends, and classmates in the preparation and implementation. Participants' projects focus on activities for children, classmates, ecology, sports, collections, helping their school or organization, etc.



## III. TRAINING

The third-weekend training is mainly focused on the evaluation of the entire education, implemented projects, and their accounting. Its focus is on personal development and feedback. The output is the presentation of implemented projects and videos about the course of education.



### **VOLUNTEER WEEK "YOUTH FOR** PRIEVIDZA"









## VOLUNTEER WEEK "YOUTH FOR PRIEVIDZA"

The week of volunteering is announced in the first week of June by the Youth Council and the organization is covered by the YC and LC. In 2021, the 5th year took place. Comparing it with previous years, they changed the date and duration due to anti-pandemic measures. In 2021, volunteer activities took place from 23.10. to 21.11. 5 primary schools, 5 secondary schools, 6 youth organizations, and seniors from the Day Center Sever took part in the fifth year of the "Young for Prievidza" Volunteer Month. 485 volunteers participated in overall 29 volunteer activities. The volunteers worked a total of 1,235 volunteer hours.

This year's Volunteer Month was affected by antipandemic measures. Since the organizers could not carry out large public activities, they carried out smaller activities with a smaller number of participants. Volunteers disposed of the rubbish in public areas, cleaned and beautified school grounds, painted and cleaned clubhouses and classrooms, planted floral decorations, organized educational, sports and cultural activities, prepared Christmas decorations, created Santa's packages for children from children's homes, and socially disadvantaged families in the care of a branch of the organization "Úsmev ako dar" in Prievidza, they organized an exchange of clothes, a collection of sweets and fodder, blankets and various treats for animal shelter "Tuláčik" in Brezno.

## VOLUNTEER WEEK 'YOUTH FOR PRIEVIDZA'

During the volunteer week, participants can create and carry out their own volunteering activities or participate in already prepared activities. For example Children's gambol, painting of the underpass or concrete fence at the depot, blood donation, cleaning of the city park, etc. The organizers keep the public informed about all activities by publishing a schedule of activities and media reports on their social networks, in the regional media, and also through the social networks of the participating organizations. Examples of activities:

 manual work: landscaping gardens, playgrounds, and surroundings of schools or organizations, cleaning public spaces, parks, streams, decoration or painting of interiors and exteriors, simple repairs and work in interior or exterior, animal care, etc., activities for the public and groups of people:



organizing various events, competitions, performances for seniors, children in children's homes, classmates and the public, charity, collections, blood donations, educational activities, sports tournaments, etc.,

 another individual volunteer activity - there are no limits to the idea.



The organizational team consists of representatives of the YC, Young Volunteers from LC, and a youth work coordinator in the city of Prievidza. The team is helpful in the preparation and implementation of the Volunteer Month: purchase of materials, refreshments, loan of tools and their distribution to participants, media support, management of social networks, and others. Its members were happy to advise everyone on how to turn their idea into reality, and how to get involved in volunteering and help those who need it. In addition to school boards, primary schools, secondary schools, and kindergartens, youth organizations, seniors, and corporate volunteers are all involved in the Volunteer Week.

### A DAY WITH YOUTH -YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PRIEVIDZA







### YOUTH DAY - YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PRIEVIDZA

This is a citywide event, which the Children's and Youth Forum and later the Youth Council have held 10 times already. The last year took place in 2019. Since then, they have not been able to carry out the event due to quarantine measures. The event is focused on the presentation of the activities of high school student boards, schools, employers, secondary youth organizations from the Upper Nitra region (cities of Prievidza, Handlová, and Nováky), who have prepared examples of their activities. They also regularly invite organizations supporting and working with youth with regional and national activities, such as Youth Council of the Trenčín Region,

Alliance of High School Students, Thematic Center of Youth Trenčín, Iuventa, SYTEV, Eurodesk and others. 8 secondary schools, 3-4 employers and 12-15 youth organizations and guests present themselves at the event. In addition to the general public, primary schools mainly invite 7th to 9th-grade pupils from the Prievidza district to the event. In addition to the information presented at the stand, visitors have the opportunity to ride in an electronic car, on a green bicycle, taste pancakes, mixed drinks or Nestlé Slovensko, s.r.o. products, see the making of hairstyles, nail painting, hand massages, first aid demonstrations, civil protection museum, or try some non-traditional sports.

## YOUTH DAY - YOUNG PEOPLE FOR PRIEVIDZA

In the presentation stands, young people will learn about study fields, dual education, the scope of work of various youth organizations and about their activities. The market of secondary schools, employers and youth organizations will be enriched by various music, singing, dance performances by students and young artists. The program is prepared by each participating student school board, LC, and they also invite guests: young singers, dancers and bands.





#### **CONCLUDING REMARKS**

"Always walk through life as if you have something new to learn, and you will."

VERNON HOWARD







#### USED SOURCES AND MATERIALS



LEGISLATION Act No.282/2008 Coll.,

Act No. 596/2003 Coll. on State Administration in Education and School Self-government

PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONPhoto archive PaedDr. Aleny StrýčkovejPhoto archive Mgr. Kataríny Cifríkovej





#### Act No.282/2008 Coll., on Youth Work Support



NO A O



- Ślabikár neformálneho vzdelávania: https://www.slabikarnfv.eu/slabikar\_digital\_sk.pdf
- SAMO príručka pre samosprávy: http://rcmtn.sk/dokumenty/
- Európska charta práce s mládežou na lokálnej úrovni http://rcmtn.sk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Europska-charta-prace-s-mladezou-nalokalnej-urovni.pdf
- Európska charta o participácii mladých ľudí na živote obcí a regiónov https://www.minedu.sk/data/att/2287.pdf
- Stratégia Slovenskej republiky pre mládež na roky 2021-2028 https://www.slov-lex.sk/legislativne-procesy/SK/LP/2021/681
- Mládežnícka participácia na Slovensku: https://mladez.sk/
- PRÍRUČKA pre obecné rady mládeže

https://rmkk.sk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Prirucka\_Obecna-Rada-Mladeze.pdf IDE MI O VIAC...Prezentačná príručka o založení, poslaní a úlohách mestského

mládežníckeho parlamentu

https://www.rmzk.sk/old/docs/mmp/prirucka%20pre%20parlamenty.pdf KNIŽNÁ EDÍCIA PARTICIPÁCIA: https://www.participacia.eu/databaza/ • Metodika participace: http://www.paktparticipace.cz/dokumenty/metodika-participace



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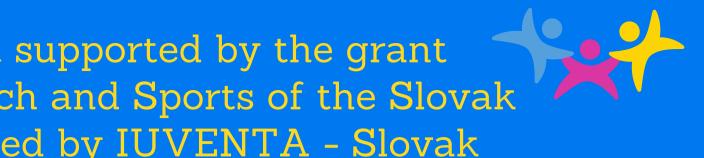
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TRENČIANSKY





#### **Regional Youth Centre**

TRENČÍN, SLOVAKIA