CENTER FOR SOCIAL INITIATIVES NADEZ

ANNUAL REPORT

2025



“ LET’S CHANGE THE WORLD.LET’S GIVE HOPE!“

Dear supporters of CSI NADEZ,

During 2025, CSI Nadez continued to pursue its goals and commitments aimed at improving the conditions of the target group through various activities and projects. We began 2025 by implementing 8 projects, some newly launched and others continuing activities from 2024.

Throughout the year, 1 volunteer and 1 intern were involved in our activities, in accordance with the organization's needs and capacities.

The work of CSI Nadez continued at local, regional, national, and international levels, advocating for strategic goals and expanding opportunities for cooperation. CSI Nadez signed 9 memorandums of cooperation with schools, institutions, and non-governmental organizations, which are key to more comprehensive inclusion of the affected target groups.

Recognizing the need for CSI Nadez to apply as a provider of social services in order to ensure continuity of our activities with children without dependence on donor grants, we dedicated 2025 to adapting our Center for licensing, after which it would receive financial support from the Ministry of Social Policy, Demography and Youth. The procedure began in 2024 and is still ongoing.

CSI Nadez has 7 employees. All team members participated in numerous events and activities where we promoted our work and established successful partnerships on various topics. The President, the Management Board, and the Supervisory Board continuously collaborate in decision-making processes essential for the functioning of the organization.

Sincerely,
The CSI Nadez Team

ID CARD OF C.S.I. NADEZ

VISION

Quality living and economic well-being for marginalized communities in North Macedonia

MISSION

Association C.S.I. Nadez Skopje is a civil organization that actively advocates for the improvement of the quality of life by providing equal access to quality education, social integration and that promotes and implements activities for the acquisition of skills for young people and marginalized communities with a focus on the Roma in the Republic of North Macedonia.

OUR VALUES:

SOCIAL JUSTICE

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

YOUYH PARTICIPATION

GENDER EQUALITY

STRENGHTENING EQUALITY

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

1. Providing educational support for children and youth from marginalized families for easier mastering of the contents in school and preschool education;

2. Support the reintegration and inclusion of returnees from European countries in local communities;

3. Increasing the involvement of young people in local communities;

4. Improving the social inclusion of the marginalized groups through the concept of social entrepreneurship.

WHAT WE DO

CSI NADEZ – PROVIDER OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Since its establishment, CSI Nadez has implemented activities with marginalized groups of children, particularly children with low socio-economic status. Despite the progress achieved, our organization had not previously met the conditions necessary to apply for state accreditation, which would ensure continuity of our activities independently from short-term donor grants.



Last year we submitted a request for a license as a social service provider, but due to insufficient financial resources we could not meet all the requirements under the Law on Social Protection and the Rulebook on standards and norms for providing social services such as day care, rehabilitation, reintegration, and re-socialization. Specifically, we lacked funds to make the facility accessible for persons with disabilities. This criterion, along with the continuous work with children at risk and their families, was fulfilled in 2025 thanks to a grant from the Mission Fund of the Diocese of Essen, Germany.

Children attending our Center had the opportunity to spend part of their day in a safe and warm environment, where they felt accepted and valued. Activities implemented at the Center included: Daily care, Nutrition; Personal hygiene maintenance; Individual life-skills activities; Educational, social, cultural, and recreational activities; Preventive activities; Educational support; Social support for parents and other related activities depending on beneficiaries' needs.



In addition to working with children, our team continuously worked with parents. Team members regularly visited families in their homes, spoke with them, and listened to their needs. The focus was primarily on improving parenting practices and reducing the dominance of traditional norms in order to help family's better cope with everyday challenges and support their children more effectively.
Support provided to families included: Job opportunities; Assistance in exercising rights; Applications for social and child protection benefits; Information and referrals to institutions; Appointment scheduling etc.
We continuously tried to make these families feel they were not alone, that we believed in them, and that there was hope for a better life.



Donation initiatives for clothing, footwear, hygiene products, and New Year gift packages were also organized in cooperation with schools, yoga centers, socially responsible companies, and individuals.



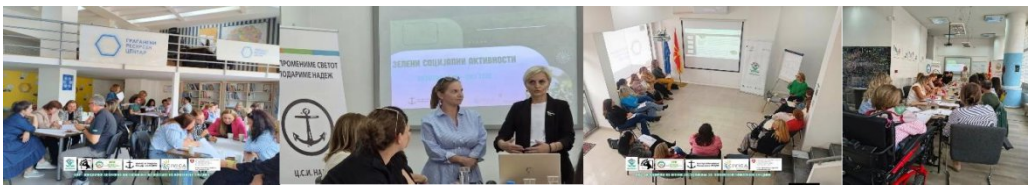
ZZZ – Together for Green Advocacy for Environmental Protection

The Project ZZZ – Together for Green Advocacy for Environmental Protection began implementation on 1 December 2023 and will run until 30 September 2026.
The project is being implemented through a partnership between the Center for Youth Activism CMA KRIK, Skopje, as the lead organization, and the Center for Social Initiatives NADEZ, Skopje and the Association of Social Workers of Macedonia (ASWM), Skopje, as partner organizations.
The project is funded by the Government of Switzerland through the Civica Mobilitas Programme, which is implemented by the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC), NIRAS from Denmark, and FCG from Sweden.
The project idea is an effort to pilot and introduce green social work and social transformation as holistic approaches aimed at supporting people's well-being in addressing ongoing climate change and maintaining a healthy environment. The activities are based on advocacy for and implementation of the concept of the right to a healthy environment for all, through green social work and the need for social transformation in order to address and build resilience to these changes.

The main objective of the project is to introduce the environmental, so-called "green" perspective into professional social work and youth work as one of the key approaches to environmental protection, while also contributing to the development of an inclusive and democratic society for all.

During 2025, the following activities were implemented within the ZZZ Project – Together for Green Advocacy for Environmental Protection:

- Development of a Training Manual for Green Advocacy and the Implementation of Local Green Initiatives.
- Delivery of the training programme "Green Advocacy through Green Social Work and Green Youth Work."
- Initiation of a mentorship support process for developing a methodology for planning and implementing green initiatives for environmental protection and climate resilience, involving young people and vulnerable groups of youth, including young people with fewer opportunities, young people with atypical development, young girls and women from rural areas, and Roma youth aged 15 to 29.
- Initiation of the process for implementing local environmental initiatives in all eight planning regions of North Macedonia.



All project activities are available on the project website: https://zzz.org.mk/

TOWARDS AN EQUAL FUTURE FOR ROMA GIRLS AND WOMEN

This project proposal started implementation in January 2024 for a duration of 18 months and ended in June 2025. The project was funded by the World Women's Day of Prayer (WWDP), German Committee. The aim of the project was to improve access to quality STEM education for Roma preschool children and to empower young Roma women with digital skills training to improve their employability and economic independence. The project targeted 20 preschool children aged 4-5, 40 Roma women aged 18-35 and 40 families.
In 2025, out of a total of 26 children involved, 22 (12 girls and 10 boys) enrolled in first grade, while 4 younger children will enroll next year, 2026.



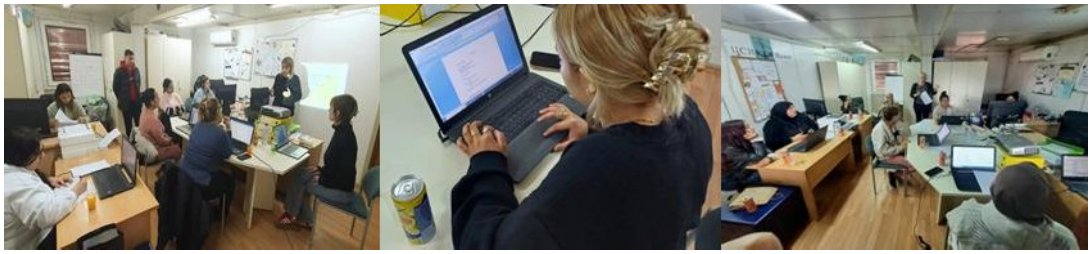
A video created by an expert to promote the inclusion of STEM in preschool education was shared through CSI Nadez's social media, targeting the public kindergarten in Shuto Orizari and similar educational centers. Without any paid promotion, the video had approximately 2,000 views, helping to raise awareness about the importance of early STEM education in fostering gender equality.



During the second year of the project, we successfully implemented a digital literacy training programme aimed at empowering 40 young Roma women and improving their access to the labour market. All participants were identified during the first year of the project and successfully completed the training programme. The sessions were organized in small groups to ensure personalized support, particularly as many participants had limited or no previous experience using computers.

The training covered internet use, online communication, digital safety, and job application skills. Participants created email accounts, developed CVs and cover letters, and practiced job interviews through simulation exercises. For many of them, this was their first experience using a computer, so individual guidance was provided to help them build confidence and acquire essential digital skills.

The training also included exploring employment opportunities based on the participants' needs and interests. A total of 30 relevant job vacancies, along with information on support services, were identified and shared with the participants to facilitate their access to employment opportunities.



As a result of the programme:

- 8 women secured employment with support from the project, 5 are currently in probationary employment, and 3 are awaiting responses to their job applications.
- 4 participants, who are currently completing secondary medical education, gained valuable skills and feel better prepared for future employment opportunities.
- 13 women did not actively seek employment due to personal barriers; some faced traditional restrictions imposed by their spouses, while 6 were unable to pursue employment due to pregnancy or childcare responsibilities.
- 12 women found informal, part-time work in order to maintain their eligibility for social assistance or because they required flexible working arrangements. However, they are now better equipped with the skills and confidence needed to pursue formal employment in the future.



AMIF – Reintegration of Returnees from Belgium

The objective of the project is to provide reintegration support to returnees from Belgium following their return to North Macedonia, over a period of 12 months.

The reintegration services include:

- **Initial assistance upon arrival**, including airport reception, emergency or temporary accommodation, legal, administrative, and social support.
- **Social support**, including contact with and mediation through the returnee's social network, access to education and schooling for returnees and their children, and vocational training opportunities.
- **Support for vulnerable returnees**, such as people with health conditions, older persons, exploited migrants, and pregnant women, including referrals to specialized services according to their specific needs, such as medical care, psychosocial support, and other relevant services.
- **Support for small business start-up or employment counselling**, assisting individuals and families in establishing income-generating activities through the purchase of equipment and goods, rental of premises, and other forms of livelihood support.
- **Support for unaccompanied minors**.

During 2025, reintegration support was provided to **12 returnee cases/families from Belgium** within the framework of the programme.



European Reintegration Programme (EURP)

The European Reintegration Programme (EURP) of Frontex provides reintegration assistance to returnees who return, either voluntarily or involuntarily, from EU Member States and Schengen-associated countries to their countries of origin. At the same time, the programme contributes to an effective return policy within the European Union by ensuring that returns are carried out in a dignified and humane manner.

To implement this assistance, Frontex has established a partnership with **Caritas International Belgium**, which collaborates with **CSI NADEZ** in **North Macedonia** to ensure the provision of high-quality support, including both arrival assistance and post-return assistance.

Activities

- Strengthening organizational capacities for working with returnees from EU Member States through the EURP programme, including training of the project team on the specialized RIAT platform, through which all project activities are implemented, as well as networking activities among all project partners participating in the programme.
- **Reintegration Packages** – Reintegration support consists of two types of assistance packages:
    - **Short-term package (Arrival Assistance)**, provided for a period of up to 14 days and including the following services:
        - Reception of returnees at the airport;
        - Transportation to their place of residence or accommodation;
        - Temporary or emergency accommodation for up to 14 days after arrival;
        - Medical support upon arrival.
    - **Long-term package (Post-Return Assistance)**, provided for a period of up to 12 months and including the following services:
        - Long-term accommodation;
        - Medical support;
        - Education services (school enrolment, training, and requalification programmes);
        - Employment counselling and labour market access support;
        - Legal assistance;
        - Psychosocial support;
        - Support for starting a small business.

During 2025, a total of 30 cases were included in the programme. All 30 cases received post-return reintegration assistance, while 29 cases also received the post arrival assistance package.



SHAPING THE FUTURE / IMPRESSIVE EU

During 2025, CSI NADEZ continued its involvement as a partner organization in two projects funded through the **Erasmus+ Programme**. Both projects are implemented by the **European Changemakers Network**, led by **Education for an Interdependent World (EDIW)**, an international association established in 1996 and headquartered in Brussels, together with 11 national organizations from ten European countries.

Both projects commenced implementation on 1 January 2025.

Shaping the Future

Project Objective:
To empower young people through learning about European values and democracy.

Implemented Activity:

- Workshops were conducted with young people aged 17 to 25, focusing on independent living skills and their integration into the labour market.

Impressive EU

Project Objective:
To promote the life, culture, traditions, language, and education of Roma communities in North Macedonia and across Europe, with a particular focus on strengthening European values within Roma communities.

Implemented Activity:

- Conceptualization, development, and production of video materials featuring interviews with successful Roma individuals in North Macedonia in the fields of education, culture, youth engagement, language, and tradition, as well as organizations working with Roma communities on the reintegration and resocialization of returnees from abroad.

ME, HERE AND NOW!

The project **"Me, Here and Now!"** started in March 2025 and was implemented over a period of three months. The project was funded by the **Municipality of Gazi Baba Budget for 2025**.

Project Objective:
To strengthen mental health through creative expression and self-discovery.

Through a one-day workshop, young women gained practical tools for coping with stress, improving their mental well-being, and fostering a sense of community and mutual support.

The activities included a creative process that provided a safe outlet for expressing emotions and personal experiences, helping participants process and release suppressed feelings. The workshop also incorporated yoga practice and breathing techniques, which contributed to reduced levels of stress and anxiety, improved emotional stability, and increased self-awareness and connection with their bodies.

As a result, participants enhanced their understanding of mental health, developed practical self-care skills, and experienced the benefits of a supportive and empowering group environment.



MOBILIZATION OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES THROUGH HUMANITARIAN AND CHARITABLE ACTIONS

1. Global Giving

During 2025, CSI NADEZ continued promoting its project **"Give Education to 60 Vulnerable Roma Children"** on the GlobalGiving platform, with the aim of mobilizing additional resources to support the continuous implementation of activities at the NADEZ Educational Center.

Thanks to donations from individual supporters around the world, a total of USD 1,536 was raised through the platform during 2025.

The funds were utilized to implement educational and developmental activities for children attending the NADEZ Educational Center in Shuto Orizari, contributing to the provision of ongoing support and learning opportunities for vulnerable Roma children.



2. CELEBRATION OF GIVING TUESDAY

During 2025, CSI NADEZ, as part of the global **GivingTuesday** movement, participated in numerous events and networking sessions with the global GivingTuesday community, while continuously working to promote the national GivingTuesday movement in North Macedonia.
The celebration of GivingTuesday in North Macedonia included several initiatives and events, including:

20 November 2025 – Humanitarian Action in Cooperation with Rebloom Yoga Skopje

A humanitarian campaign was organized in partnership with Rebloom Yoga Skopje to collect and donate clothing and footwear to 20 socially vulnerable families who are beneficiaries of the services provided by the NADEZ Educational Center.



30 November 2025 – "GOOD DAY" Humanitarian Event

In cooperation with Kombo, Komshiluk, Europe House, Legis, Ljubeznost, and young artists, the **GOOD DAY** event brought together environmental, humanitarian, educational, and cultural activities, including:

- A morning environmental action in a forest park, involving a clean-up initiative and a nature walk aimed at raising awareness about environmental protection;
- A charity sale of handmade jewelry and second-hand items to support children from socially vulnerable families;
- Collection and distribution of donations, including food, clothing, footwear, bedding, and household items, for a support center for homeless individuals;
- An educational embroidery workshop for young participants, alongside an exhibition featuring the work of young artists, including illustrations, visual art, and sound installations;
- Activities that encouraged community engagement, social interaction, and solidarity among participants.



Intergenerational Solidarity Activities

Holiday greeting cards were created by children attending the NADEZ Educational Center and the Day Center for Street Children. In addition, creative and interactive activities were organized with residents of the Idila Terzieva Home for Older Persons, helping to create a positive, inclusive, and supportive atmosphere and fostering intergenerational connections within the community.



3. OTHER RESOURCE MOBILIZATION INITIATIVES

Throughout 2025, CSI NADEZ successfully mobilized additional resources through partnerships with companies, educational institutions, organizations, and individual supporters, contributing to the well-being and development of children from socially vulnerable families.

The following contributions were secured:

- **Quinshift Company – Project Snow** provided financial support for the purchase of materials needed to implement educational and creative activities within the preschool programme.
- **Yahya Kemal College** donated New Year gift packages for 25 children from socially vulnerable families.
- **Angel Tree** organized a donation campaign based on the individual wishes of 35 children at social risk, providing personalized holiday gift packages.
- Through the **"New Year's Joy" humanitarian initiative**, implemented in cooperation with the **Macedonian Medical Association**, New Year gift packages and toys were provided for the children attending the Center.
- Our **Peace Corps volunteer, Ben, and his friends** donated hygiene kits for the children attending the Center, contributing to the promotion of health and personal hygiene among the beneficiaries.



INTERNSHIPS AND VOLUNTEERING AT CSI NADEZ

During 2025, CSI NADEZ continued its cooperation with the Peace Corps. Volunteer **Benjamin Arnt** successfully completed the second year of his service with our organization and actively participated in activities implemented with the children attending the Center.
Towards the end of the year, he organized a fundraising initiative through which hygiene kits were provided for children from socially vulnerable backgrounds who attend our Center.
His continued engagement and contribution supported the organization's efforts to improve the well-being of children and strengthen the quality of services and activities offered through the Center.



CSI NADEZ, in cooperation with the **Institute of Social Work and Social Policy**, implements an internship programme for students enrolled at the Institute.
During the period **March–May 2025**, student **Dilek Ibraimova** completed her internship within our organization. As part of her practical placement, she was involved in activities with preschool children at the **NADEZ Educational Center** and gained first-hand experience of the various projects implemented by our organization in the field of social protection.
The internship provided an opportunity to develop practical skills, deepen professional knowledge, and gain insight into community-based social services and programmes aimed at supporting vulnerable groups.





Web page:http://www.csinadez.mk/

FACEBOOK https://www.facebook.com/C.S.I.Nadez

BLOG http://ouryouthcentrenadez.wordpress.com/

YOUTUBE http://www.youtube.com/csinadezmk

LINKEDIN http://www.linkedin.com/company/centre-for-social-initiatives-nadez/?viewAsMember=true/

INSTAGRAM http://www.instagram.com/zcsinadez/