



71210 ILIDŽA, Ul. Butmirska cesta br. 18

Association "ROTARY CLUB" Sarajevo Ilidža,

Sarajevo-Ilidža, September 29th, 2017

Attn: Distinguished District Governor, Mr. Arno W. Kronhofer

Dear Rotary friends in Austria,
Dear members of RC Hermagor,

It was our great honour and pleasure to greet You and Dijana on behalf of the **Rotary Club Sarajevo Ilidža** (Club), September 25th, 2017. I am using this opportunity to thank you for all that you have done and are yet to do in the future for our Club. We are proud that your Club RC Hermagor, has agreed to become our Partner in the District Grant application.

As you know, our Club currently has 23 members and is the third Rotary Club in Sarajevo (along with RC Sarajevo and RC Sarajevo Delta International), and two more clubs for young people (RAC Sarajevo and Sarajevo IAC), it enriches Rotary community in Sarajevo and Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as District 1910.

Now, I would like to tell you something about our project: In the past several months, our Club has intensively worked on a project, with the intention to continue its work in the future as well. Our project supports the **Center for Blind and Visually Impaired Children and Youth (Center)**, which is a public institution, established in 1947. Its main goal is to educate and enable blind and visually impaired people for independent life and work. Currently, it includes **70 children & students** in primary and secondary schools from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina. <http://www.czsd.edu.ba/new/>

This Center organizes and conducts support for pre-school education, education in elementary school and education of blind and visually impaired youth in order to enter professions, offering retraining, rehabilitation and re-socialization of the students who lost their sight during educational process or later in life. In addition to regular classes, students are offered all-day support in learning and everyday skills development, orientation and mobility, vision exercise, individual training on **Braille alphabet**, etc. Extra-curricular activities are numerous and include sections such as orchestra, ecological, geographical, historical, sports, literally and journalistic sections, league of sobriety, puppetry, debate club, as well as sections on informatics, English, German, math, etc.

Our Club working group has repeatedly visited the Center and met with its management who assured us of the need for assistance **from the Rotary community**. Given that their limited budget does not meet the required standards, which is definitely not sufficient to improve the work with children, our project is primarily focused on the Center's urgent need - **Braille printer and display** in order to improve the quality of education for these children. This device costs around 6,000 Euros (I give approximate amount because it has some variations and additions). However, this is not their only need. There are some other needs Center pointed out to us, such as the **"tunnel"** that needs to be build in their front yard, that will help blind and visually impaired children with their spatial orientation and/or the **minibus**, that will aid them in transportation to-from the Center. Majority of them live at the Center's premises, however, there are some students that need to travel back and forth, from their homes to the Center as well. Other than this

Center, another similar organization reached out to us to ask as if we could help them as well. *Detailed description of them (Library), is below, in the continuation of this letter.

Therefore, with all said above, yes, we are delighted that your Club will partner up with us in implementation of this wonderful project.

We will start the media campaign around October 15th, because this is when we would like to promote the song (Global World Sight Day is scheduled each year in October). (<https://www.iapb.org/advocacy/world-sight-day>).

I thank you from the bottom of my heart and look forward to our future cooperation; it was a pleasure seeing you during Your visit in Sarajevo few days ago (sept.25th, 2017) and hope to see you again soon!

Alisa Vrabac
President, 2017-2018

Member, Song Coordinator

Our website:

<http://www.rotary-sarajevoilidza.ba/sareni-svijet-rotary-club-sarajevo-ilidza/>



Librarian at the Center



Oldfashioned Breile Typewriter