

**Project title:** Children wellbeing and rights cooperation network

**Project leader:** Association „Children First“

**Partner 1:** Brave phone

**Partner 2:** SOS Children's Village Croatia

**Partner 3:** Association Ardura Šibenik

**Partner 4:** SOS Children's Villages Norway

**Project implementation period:** October 1, 2022 – February 29, 2024

**Project total value:** 89.840,76 €

**Contact person for more information:** Natalija Stanković, [natalija.stankovic@djeca-prva.hr](mailto:natalija.stankovic@djeca-prva.hr)

**Link to relevant internet pages:** <https://djeca-prva.hr/>

**Project summary:**

Strategic documents and the legislative framework emphasize the need to protect children's rights, especially those of children in disadvantaged positions. Although progress has been made, statistical data from relevant institutions, research, analysis, and practice show that the realization of children's fundamental rights is still insufficient. Civil society organizations (CSOs) providing services to vulnerable groups are familiar with the issues, but often lack the capacity to engage more in monitoring public policies and advocating for children's rights.

This project aims to contribute to the protection of children's rights by strengthening cooperation, analytical, advocacy, and organizational capacities of CSOs gathered in the Network. Transparent and structured monitoring of public policy for children will focus on providing credible findings that will influence better protection of children's rights. The project will also empower vulnerable groups, including children and their families, through needs assessment, information on rights and the legislative framework, and public campaigns aimed at the entire community. In this way, the project will contribute to the realization of children's rights, social justice, and social inclusion.

An added value of the project lies in involving CSOs and vulnerable groups from 5 counties, exchanging experiences, and fostering cooperation between experienced and less experienced CSOs, as well as collaboration with a partner from Norway. The project will also achieve a multiplier effect by presenting and making available all activities, experiences, lessons learned, and public policy analysis methodologies. At the end of the project, a work plan for the Network will be developed for the period after the project's completion, ensuring long-term joint action focused on protecting children's rights as a permanent asset of the community.