

Project title: STRENGTHENING YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES FOR PROACTIVE ACTION AND INCREASING CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Project leader: WISH ASSOCIATION

Partner 1: KOZLIČI - ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTION OF CULTURE

Partner 2: VALUE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Partner 3: ASSOCIATIONA VIDEATUR

Project implementation period: August 1, 2022 – October 30, 2023

Project total value: 28.298,20 €

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Link to relevant internet pages: <https://zazeli.hr/>

Project summary:

The project focuses on children and youth with visual and hearing impairments, aged 7 to 25, who are often marginalized due to societal ignorance and insufficient systemic support. Despite ongoing advocacy for improving their societal position, they are generally excluded from these processes due to their age or lack of necessary skills. The key issue addressed by the project is the absence of programs to strengthen their civic competencies and enable their active participation in civic engagement.

The project aims to increase the active participation of persons with disabilities (PWD) in creating a more inclusive society. The specific objectives include:

- Strengthening civic competencies for 20 children and 20 youth with disabilities,
- Empowering PWD to initiate initiatives and engage in advocacy efforts,
- Enhancing volunteer engagement in civil society organizations (CSOs).

Activities involve developing a program to strengthen civic skills, conducting structured dialogues where PWD take on the role of advocates, and implementing a volunteer program. The project outcomes include improved civic engagement among PWD, the development of a more inclusive civil society, and the empowerment of marginalized groups through concrete advocacy activities.

The project's multiplier effect will be achieved through a tailored program that can be adapted to other marginalized groups and implemented in various local communities with the same impact. This project is highly relevant to this call as it directly contributes to increasing civic engagement in CSOs, empowering marginalized groups, and fostering inclusion through advocacy activities conducted by PWD, which are also key outcomes of the project.