KOSOVO NEWS

"YES, CHILDREN CAN!" CAMPAIGN HIGHLIGHTS

Save the Children

March 21st – April 2nd 2018

MARCH 21st THE "YES, CHILDREN CAN!" REGIONAL CAMPAIGN IS LAUNCHED

On the very special occasion of marking World Down Syndrome Day, Save the Children in Kosovo launched its "Yes, Children Can!" regional campaign. The two-week campaign aimed at raising awareness on the rights of children with disabilities and the need for their equal inclusion in the society.

The "Yes, Children Can!" Campaign was launched as a part of the "Community Based Services for Children with Disabilities" Regional Project, implemented by Save the Children in Kosovo since January 2016, which aims to address systemic gaps regarding children with disabilities in five Eastern European countries (Kosovo, Albania, Georgia, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina).

March 21st marked only the beginning of the activities organized by SCiK on behalf of the "Yes, Children Can" campaign, in close cooperation with three local partners - "Autizmi" Association, Down Syndrome Kosova, and "Handikos" Association.

Down Syndrome Kosova Protesting March: On March 21st, Save the Children participated in the protesting march organized by NGO Down Syndrome Kosova in Prishtina's city center, aimed at empowering the voices of people with disabilities in Kosovo. Participating at this March were children, parents, teachers, as well as representatives from the HandiKOS centre in Ferizaj.

Video-animation launch: On March 21st, Save the Children launched the "Know Me For My Abilities" awareness-raising video-animation shown in Prishtina's city centre for two weeks as well as two local televisions (in Gjakova and Ferizaj) aimed at changing the general public's attitude and perceptions on children with disabilities living in Kosovo. Access our video-animation here.

MARCH 22nd CBR CENTERS IN GJAKOVA CELEBRATE WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

As part of our activities within the "Yes, Children Can!" Regional Campaign, children with Down Syndrome attending the Community-based rehabilitation (CBR) center in Gjakova, on behalf of World's Down Syndrome Day, gathered in the city's library with their schoolmates, teachers and parents to read their favorite stories and poetry.

MARCH 29th HANDIKOS FERIZAJ ORGANIZES MEETING WITH BENEFICIARIES

On March 29th, within the Week of Action "Know Me for My Abilities" of the "Yes, Children Can!" regional campaign, launched as a part of our "Community based services for children with disabilities" project, the Handikos Center in Ferizaj organized a meeting with beneficiaries, stakeholders, and municipal representatives, to discuss the situation of children with disabilities attending schools.

Main discussion topics during this meeting were the barriers that children with disabilities face and the role that Handikos, Save the Children, and other partners play in ensuring better monitoring and support for teachers working in inclusive classrooms.

This meeting served as a great opportunity for the members of the Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo present at the meeting, to be directly informed on the difficulties that these children face, vital to Assembly's drafting of the Education Development Plan 2018-2022.

Moreover, MACP's project summary for the period January 2016 – December 2017 was also distributed to the paritcipants, which was also printed and distributed as part of the regional campaign.

APRIL 2nd "AUTIZMI" ASSOCIATION'S ACTIVITIES ON WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

Marking World Autism Awareness Day and within the framework of the regional campaign "Yes, Children Can", on April 2nd, the "Autism" Association together with Save the Children in Kosovo organized an awareness-raising march in Prishtina's city center, under the slogan "I have my own world, which is open to you too".

Pupils, children with disabilities, local stakeholders and partners, parents, teachers, social workers, students, and the general public joined this march, calling for acceptance and provision of necessary services for children with autistic spectrum disorders.

The march was followed by a concert during which children with autism showed their true talents in singing, reciting, and painting. Through their performances, children with autism showed that they too, like other children, have great talents and can do amazing things when provided with the necessary support.

APRIL 2nd

HANDIKOS GJAKOVA CELEBRATES WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

Under "Yes, Children Can!", the HandiKOS Center in Gjakova also organized various activities, which were held at the "Fehmi Agani" school in Gjakova. 11 children who receive services from the HandiKOS center in Gjakova as well as 40 pupils from "Fehmi Agani" school participated in this event.

Activities included an information session explaining the importance of WorldAutism Awareness Day, a drawing and coloring session where children drew and colored ribbons, which they afterwards wore as a sign of showing solidarity with children with autism spectrum disorders, and lastly, a playing session where children were engaged in a variety number of games, designed to entertain as well as enhance children's team-working skills.

TOTAL CAMPAIGN REACH

During the two-week campaign, our awareness-raising Video-Animation was shown:

284 TIMES

In the advertising screen display in Prishtina's city center

56 TIMES

In Gjakova's TV Syri

21 TIMES

In Ferizaj's TV TEMA

During March 21st – April 4th we:

POSTED:

9 Facebook Posts on the activities organized during the campaign

REACHED:

Approx. 20,000 people

Our video-animation received 1.1K views

The "Yes, Children Can!" Campaign, launched as a part of the "Community Based Services for Children with Disabilities" Regional Project will continue its implementation through the national campaign in Kosovo throughout the year. All activities organized will be under the slogan "Yes, Children Can!", and "Know me For My Abilities". More specifically, there will be mobilizations activities, two videos, and a documentary developed, with the aim of raising the general public's awareness on children with disabilities and changing public attitudes and perceptions on children with disabilities living in Kosovo.

Gazmend Zajmi nr.1, 10000 Prishtinë, Kosovë
Phone: +383 (0) 38 23 26 91
Fax: +383 (0) 38 23 26 93
scik@savethechildren.org
www.savethechildren.net