

2022

Annual Report

Dear friends,

One more year is behind us, the seventh in a row, and we cannot say that we are satisfied and happy. Only five dogs were adopted - our good Harley, Hero, Scooby, Doo and Zan - good luck to them! But, the New Year 2023 was sadly welcomed in the shelter by those who were not so lucky - 160 beautiful creatures who deserve a better life.

Throughout the past year, we have been followed by numerous challenges - from a large increase in the number of dogs and accompanying mutual attacks, an astronomical increase in the price of dog food and problems with frequent changes of employees, to challenges less known to our supporters, such as problems with drinking water for dogs, blown fuses and power outages without which the shelter cannot function, waste that the utilities will not transport because it is too many, rains that create chaos, frozen water pipes, gnawed fences that need to be repaired urgently, sleepless nights worrying about what the morning will bring ...

However, not everything is so black. There are people and organizations that brought light and gave us the strength to keep on. Their support meant a lot. Here we would like to thank everyone who helped the survival of the Land of Dogs - we wouldn't have succeeded without your support!

We enter the New Year with the hope that it will bring fewer worries, more success and joy, and the most of all, more dogs adopted.

Yours,

Eni & Dževad, SRCEZAŠAPU founders

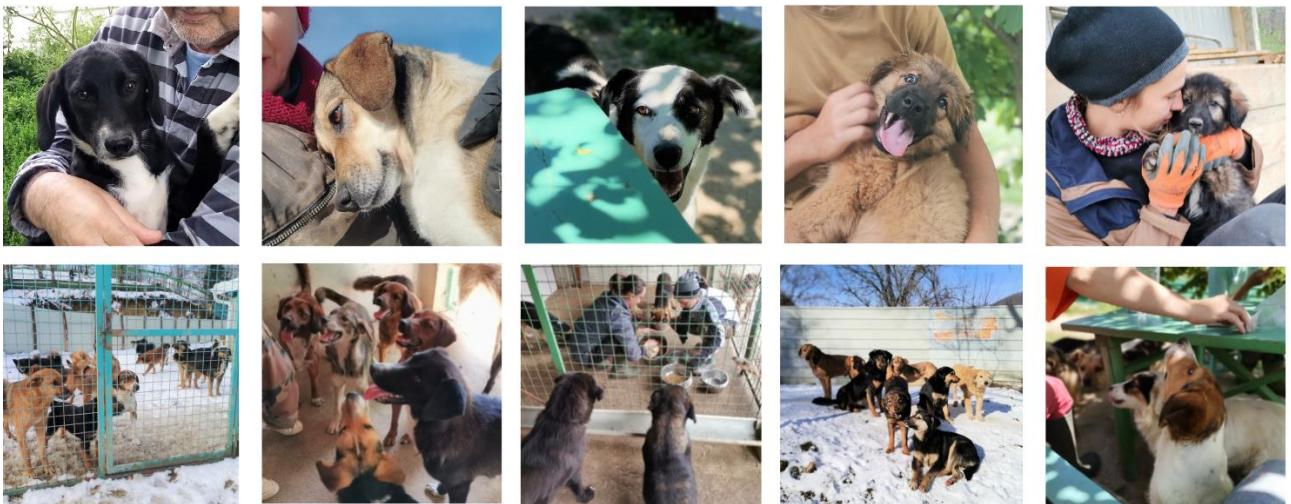


Year 2022 in the Land of Dogs

By the end of 2022, the number of dogs increased from 137 (Jan 1st) to 161 dogs (Dec 31st). This is the largest number of dogs in our shelter so far, which far exceeds our capacities. This is consequence of the large number of abandoned puppies in our town who would have died if we had not provided them with housing and care. During the year, we rescued 6 groups of puppies, 39 of them in total.



This increase in the number of dogs in the shelter had numerous consequences. First of all, it represents an additional burden for workers who now need much more time for regular daily tasks. They simply did not have time for important additional activities such as taking care of the dogs and playing with them, so that we (the founders), in addition to our professional jobs and earning money for the work of the shelter, were forced to spend a lot more time at the shelter.



New dogs in the shelter meant the need to build two additional yards where new packs were formed. Of course, in addition to this financial expense, a larger number of dogs also brought increased costs of dog food and veterinary services.



Further, nervousness among dogs and number of mutual attacks increased. Considering that the Land of Dogs is designed as a cage-free shelter where dogs are mostly free, we could not prevent this, except by constant monitoring and moving dogs from one part of the shelter to another in situations where we would estimate that a dog is at risk of attack (this is related to the sleepless nights..). However, while many were saved, two of them were not so lucky. Ploti and Choco did not survive the dog attacks. That's the price of shelter overcrowding.

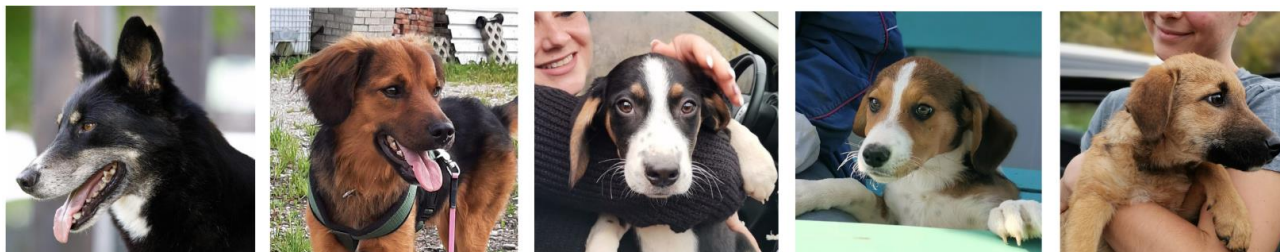


With sadness in our hearts we will continue with this part of the Report. More than in previous years, we were faced with snake bites. In fact, it is the result of a fire that some enemy of the dogs from a nearby village lit a fire around the entire shelter in the spring, so all the snakes escaped to our territory. Fortunately, we managed to get the serum in time, so three dogs were saved - Harley, Moon and Kan. But, Pajdo was not so lucky - a snake bit him in the late afternoon when we were not there, and he died by morning.

Zlatka, Casper, Shakira, and two puppies, whose illness we were unable to cure, also left us, as well as Shanti, one of the oldest residents of the shelter who we found dead one morning. In fact, we believe they all left because of the sadness and meaninglessness of life in the shelter.

Finally, there is Sani too, the very first dog that we had to euthanize in 7 years of our existence. That decision was very difficult and that experience was very painful. The decision was made in consultation with veterinarians from Prijedor, Tuzla and Zagreb, but the opinion of a specialist from Switzerland ruled. Unfortunately, the continuation of life for Sani would be only suffering and pain. So, in total, 9 dogs died in the shelter during 2022.

Certainly, our mission is not to house the abandoned dogs and to keep them in the shelter until some attack, illness or their old age, to wait for death there. Our mission is to provide them with their happy, forever homes as soon as possible. Besides, since our capacities are overcrowded, without adoption we are not able to rescue hundreds of hungry and sad dogs who are currently on the streets of our city and at the city landfill where the authorities take "surplus" of dogs from the streets. But, despite intensive promotion and contacts with numerous organizations and individuals, we had poor results. In 2022, only 5 dogs were adopted - Harley and Hero in Austria with the help of the organization Seelenhunde - vergiss mein nicht, and Scooby in Germany, Doo in Slovenia and Zak in Bosnia, all three through direct contact and a visit of the adopters to the shelter. We are happy for them and sad for all the others who are still waiting for their lucky stars to shine on them.



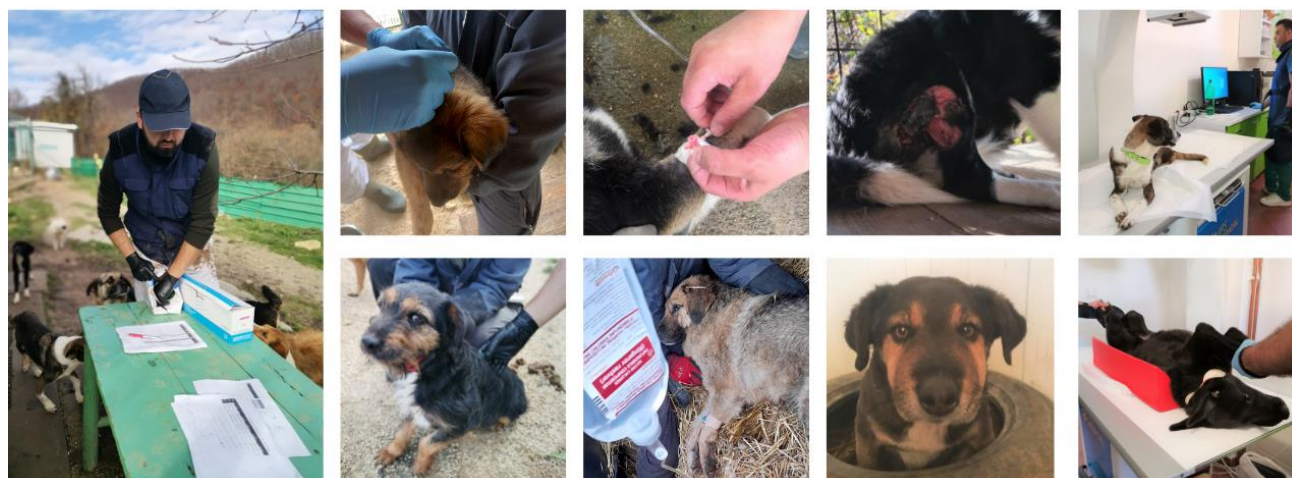
So, our main goal that remained unfulfilled awaits us in the next year as well, which is to find a partner organization with which we will cooperate on adopting dogs from our shelter. Without a serious increase in the number of adopted dogs, all our efforts lose meaning.

Reading what has been written so far, one gets the impression that 2022 was extremely unsuccessful and sad. Yes, it was difficult and full of challenges, but still, there are also some successes, joys and reasons to be proud.

During the year, 25 dogs were sterilized. They are Jungo, Jerry, Joe, Georgia, Gia, Lou, Ploti, Mickey, Lilly, Luşy, Negra, Joy, Silver, Sana, Hero, Terry, Zoro, Luno, Maırs, Moon, Dina, Dana, Dundo, Maya and Molly.



Our vet had a lot of work at the shelter this year. In addition to sterilizations, treatments for wounds, snakebites and diseases, 38 puppies were vaccinated with the first and second dose of DHLPP vaccine, and 61 dogs received a regular dose of rabies vaccine. Besides, four dogs visited veterinarians in other cities to undergo specialist examinations.



We distributed pills against internal and external parasites 4 times during the year – in February, June, August and November. It's a lot of work for us, but also a lot of fun for them - not because of the pills, of course, but because of the salami that is served with the pills.



Maintaining a 14.500 square meter property, especially considering that it is home to dogs that have a tendency to dig and nibble on things, is no easy task. In addition to constant repairs to fences, dug up water pipes and dangerously corroded electrical wiring, the grass must be regularly mowed, the snow must be cleared and the sand must be poured. Further, the analysis of the water from our private well showed a malfunction, so we had to get a filter for purification in order to ensure healthy water for dogs.



During the year, we were faced with two employee departures. We were particularly affected by the fact that one of the workers who have been with us since 2015 was already tired of working in the shelter, so it was time for her to move on. In a city where few people like animals and whose population is decreasing due to the migration to foreign countries, it was very difficult to find a replacement. This issue was a great stress, but we made it. By the end of December our team has been refreshed with two people who have empathy for animals and we believe that the dogs will also be satisfied with them.

A lot of work was done on visibility. The lack of a website has been a pain point for years, so a big thanks to the design firm Red Sun, which pro bono created a beautiful website for SRCEZAŠAPU <https://www.srcezasapu.com/> . Also, we continued with the production of video albums of dogs, still with the pro bono engagement of Dino Kurtović. The videos are published on our YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/@srcezasapu3695/featured> . Further, faced with the problem of the absolute lack of interest of people from Sanski Most and in general from Bosnia and Herzegovina for dog adoptions, we started with a series of stories "Adoption is cool" written by adopters of our dogs and published on the Mozaik Foundation LONAC.ba portal. Here is one of the stories: <https://lonac.pro/bs/udomiti-je-cool-prica-o-jackie> . Of course, as in previous years, a large part of the time is devoted to constant posts on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

We were especially pleased with the visits of friends of the shelter. This year Petra, Marijke, Mariska, Karel, Semira, Tomek, Wumač, Jasmina, Emin, Vesna, Sandra, Alisa, Dušanka, Asmela, Samir, Zlatko and Zlata warmed dogs' hearts by cuddling and playing with them.



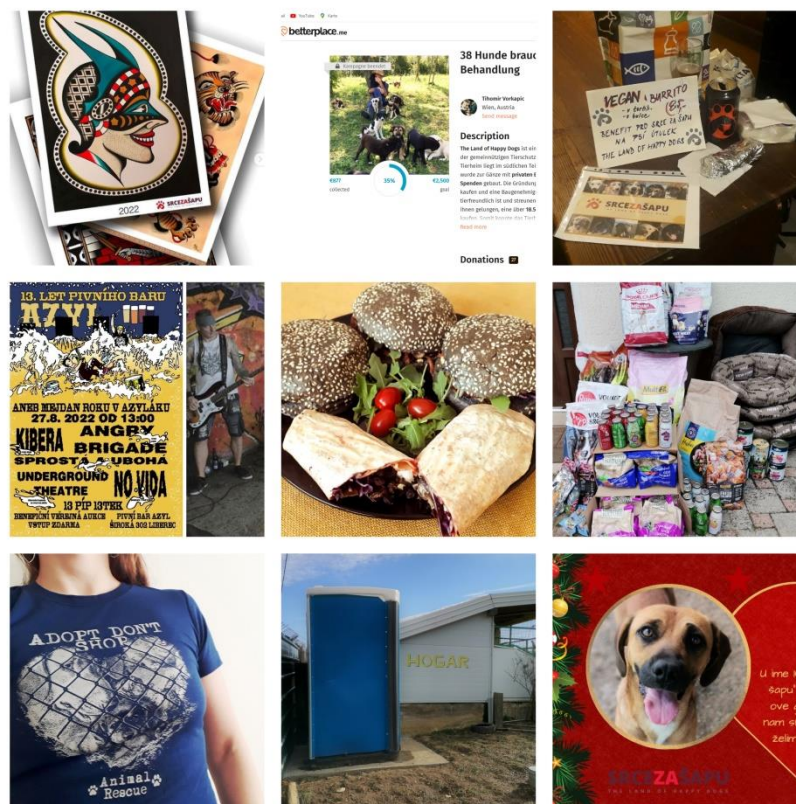
Also, the adopters of dogs from our shelter visited us and made us happy with the opportunity to hug our old wards again. It was Sajma with Pixie (from Belgium), the Krupić family with Aura (from Netherlands) and Petra with Jackie (from Czech Republic).



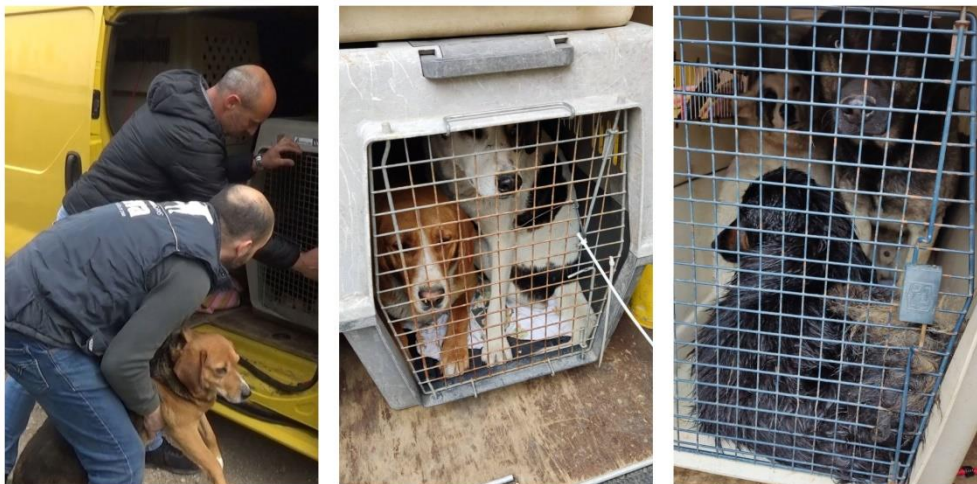
All this would not be possible without the external financial support of over 60 individuals who, through regular or occasional donations, enabled the survival of Land of Dogs. In addition to them, this year we also received two grants - one in the amount of 3,000 USD (5,752 BAM after bank transaction) from SPCA International for food procurement, and a grant for annual health costs from MAWT in the amount of 3,387 EUR (6,579 BAM after bank transaction). Many thanks to our donors and supporters - we couldn't do it without you!

An extra part of this story of the Land of Dogs in year 2022 are the initiatives of those who love and care for us and dogs in the shelter. These are the ones who come to us with their own ideas and do the work themselves, knowing how burdened we are with daily tasks.

- A group of tattoo artists from the Czech Republic who created artistic calendars at the end of 2021 raised 2.151 BAM (1.099 EUR), which were paid to our account in January 2022.
- Tiho and Lejla (Austria) again created a crowd funding campaign on the platform <https://www.betterplace.me/38-hunde-brauchen-dringend-tieraerztliche-behandlung> , which collected 877 EUR to support the work of the shelter.
- Petra (Czech Republic) organized two fundraising events that included the sale of vegan food, a concert and the sale of T-shirts and collected a total of 1.241 BAM (634 EUR) for the Land of Dogs (the donation from the sale of T-shirts was paid in January 2023 and amounted additional 993 BAM / 507 EUR).
- Sandra and Markus from the Austrian organization Seelenhunde - Vergiss mein nicht collected funds on their social networks, from which 1.502 BAM (768 EUR) was paid to our account and 400 kg of food and other necessities purchased.
- We must not forget Semira Selman Kašmo (Germany), who is still persistently looking for a partner organization in the EU with which SRCEZAŠAPU would cooperate on adoption.
- Zlata, Liliana and Melita (Switzerland) bought so needed mobile toilet and organized and paid concreting the base and placement of the toilet in the shelter. Total value of this project was 600 EUR. As an additional gift, Zlata bought micro-chip reader (value 55 EUR).
- Finally, Sandra (Slovenia) initiated the creation of New Year's greeting cards, and with that action, the amount of donations in December 2022 was significantly increased.



Coming to the end of this narrative part of the report, a few words about the attitude of the city authorities towards abandoned dogs. In short, they are no better, nor have we been able to influence them. This year, the municipality of Sanski Most allocated funds to solve the problem of abandoned dogs, but this resulted in a terrible decision and signing a contract with a private shelter from another entity of Bosnia and Herzegovina where euthanasia is allowed (in the Federation of BiH, euthanasia is prohibited, and in the Republika Srpska it is not, although state Law does not allow killing dogs in shelters if they are not adopted within a month). So, in April the city authorities organized capturing around 100 dogs abandoned dogs from the streets and transported them to the shelter in Prnjavor. SRCEZAŠAPU, together with associations "Støtt gatehunder i Bosnia - Fredrikstad" and "Spas za pse" reacted and sent a letter to the Mayor of the Municipality of Sanski Most, the Chairperson of the Municipal council, the Veterinary Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Cantonal Administration for Veterinary Inspection. But, this municipal action continued and in June additional 33 dogs were captured and left to the death camp in Prnjavor. The only possible step would be a lawsuit against the decision maker (local government), since in this case the Law was bypassed and dogs from the territory of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina where euthanasia is prohibited were taken to the Republic of Srpska - to be killed. But we don't have the means or strength for that, and we don't even believe that a legal fight would be successful in this corrupt state we live in, whose officials have no regard for the suffering of animals. Nobody knows what happened with these poor animals.



- Organizaciju posjete skloništu u „Java“ u roku od 7 dana kojoj će prisustvovati i predstavnici naših udruženja;
- Uvid u plan daljnjeg vršenja kontrole nad stanjem pasa u skloništu i njihovog eventualnog udomljavanja i/ili odvoženja na druga mjesta;
- Trenutačno otkazivanje svih daljnjih aktivnosti na odvoženju pasa u sklonište „Java“ i primjenu pristupa sterilizacija napuštenih pasa po sistemu koji primjenjuje DogsTrust i koji nalaže Federalno ministarstvo poljoprivrede (sterilizacija i vraćanje na prethodno mjesto boravka).

U slučaju da se ustanovi da u ovoj „akciji“ nisu poštovane zakonske odredbe, protiv naručioca posla i potpisnika ugovora za smještaj pasa u skloništu „Java“ će biti podignuta krivična prijava.

Sanda Hagen
Støtt gatehunder i Bosnia --
Fredrikstad
Sanda Hagen

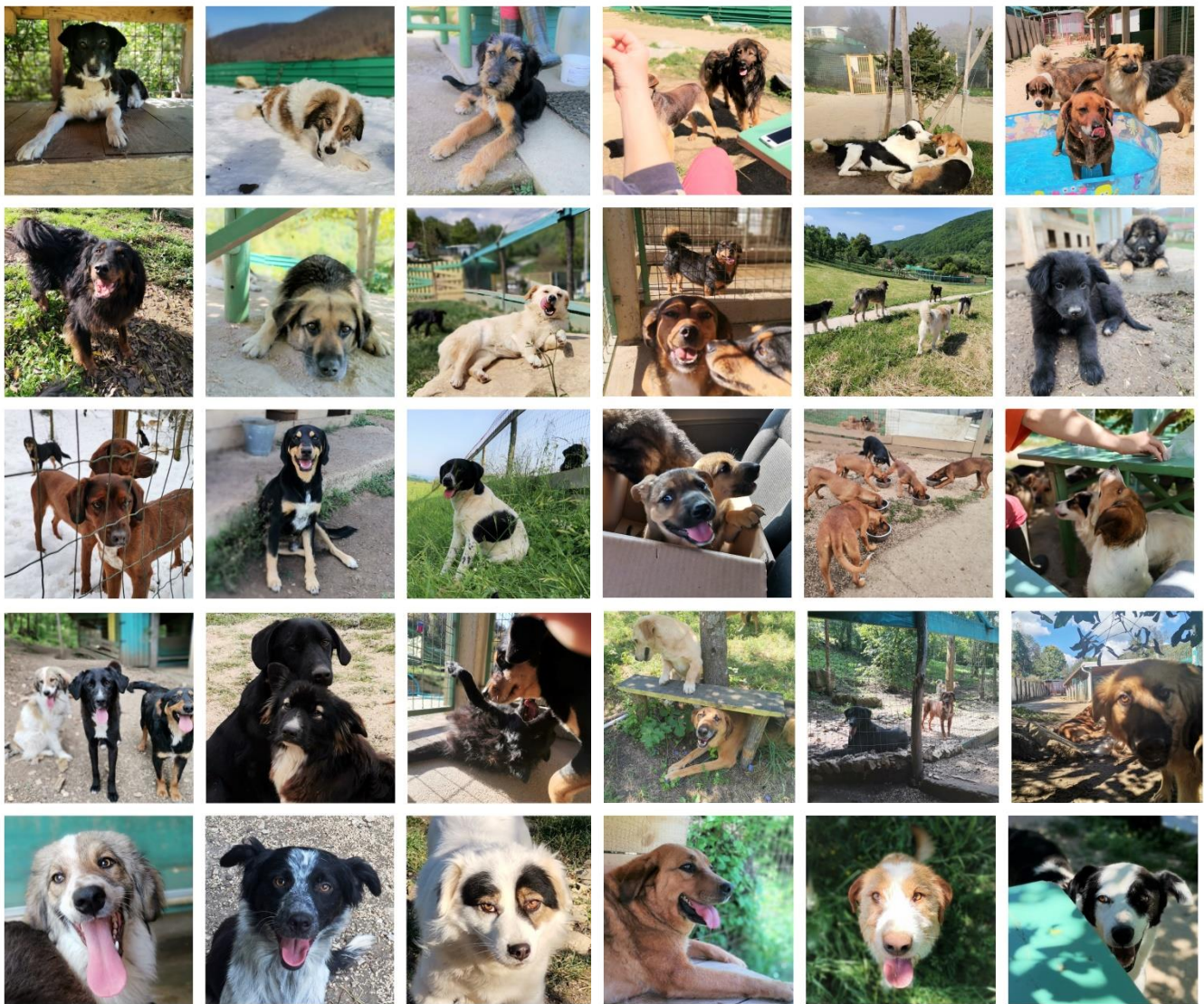
Dževad Karabeg i Eni Kurtović
Srce za šapu
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Enes Eminić
Spas za pse
[Signature]
UDRUŽENJE "SPAS ZA PSE"

<https://sanartv.ba/saopcenje-tri-udruzenja-za-zastitu-napustenih-pasa/>

Finally, one note. Those who know about us may wonder why we are no longer the Land of Happy Dogs, but just the Land of Dogs. Here is the answer. When we embarked on this adventure, we believed that rescue for abandoned dogs is at hand, that they are happy because they are here with us and that the short time they will spend at the shelter will be filled only with play, joy and fun. But we were wrong. And we would be deceiving others if we continue to talk about some land of happy dogs. No, it's just a land of dogs, just theirs, but not a happy one - because they were not lucky enough to be adopted. Second reason for changing the name of the shelter is of a promotional nature and lies in the fact that we realized that for the vast majority of people, the call to action, whether it is adoption or providing financial support, is not happy story and cheerful photo. Simply put, the Land of Happy Dogs does not motivate. We hope that this small detail will contribute to more successful achieving the goals in the coming year, especially when it comes to dogs adoption.

We'll end this narrative report with a few more thumbnails captured over the year - you know what they say, a picture is worth a thousand words (and again, we can't skip the happy ones).



Financial Information

The table shows the monthly costs and the total amount of monthly donations, all expressed in BAM. Converted, total costs amounted to EUR 34,126. Donations from individuals and organizations in 2022 were EUR 18,169. Comparing with previous year, costs increased by 12.8%, primarily due to large increases in the price of dog food.

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Food for dogs	3.346,19	2.208,14	3.071,3	2.208,14	2.208,14	2.208,14	2.208,14	2.678,42	3.192,58		4.479,70	3.899,84	31.708,68
Vets & Medicines	610,00	305,00	0,0	260,00	860,00	1.679,50	385,00	382,00	635,00	722,10	0,00	2.140,00	7.978,60
Salaries	1.523,69	2.087,18	2.087,2	2.087,18	2.087,18	2.087,18	1.652,62	1.953,60	1.004,81	1.124,48	1.092,48	1.124,48	19.912,06
Upgrading the shelter	0,00	125,15	0,0	0,00	382,86	72,60	0,00	104,65	320,57	156,59	800,80	867,60	2.830,82
Operational costs	195,81	185,43	220,2	168,83	165,49	169,71	200,07	303,72	69,92	45,91	149,80	118,29	1.993,21
Book-keeping	150,00	0,00	300,0	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	1.800,00
Bank fee	39,91	34,40	37,9	35,60	35,20	36,70	31,40	78,00	40,00	40,80	52,58	58,57	521,06
	5.865,60	4.945,30	5.716,56	4.909,75	5.888,87	6.403,83	4.627,23	5.650,39	5.412,88	2.239,88	6.725,36	8.358,78	66.744
Donations	3.777	1.514	1.131	732	1.814	971	1.545	1.548	7.594	3.333	8.699	2.878	35.536

Note: Only cash donations are listed in the table.

It is important to mention that the expenses in 2022 were much higher than shown in the table and that many of them were paid in cash and are not recorded in this report. In the first place, due to the problem with the departure of two employees, since July 2022 we were forced to hire temporary workers as help who were paid in cash. Furthermore, there are the costs of workers for the construction of the yards, electricians, plumbers, workers for mowing the grass, then purchasing straw and many other small costs that are paid directly from the pockets of us, the founders. Also, the significant amount of dog food we bought with cash due to the raw material crisis and constant delays in delivery from suppliers. Finally, the water filter was bought with cash from our own funds. All these costs are not shown in the accounting report and are not presented in the table.

Key Information about the SRCEZAŠAPU

SRCEZAŠAPU is an association founded in 2015, as a spontaneous response to extreme violation of the Animal Welfare Law and critical condition of abandoned dogs in Sanski Most (Bosnia and Herzegovina). Our mission is to relieve homeless dogs from suffering and pain and to enable them a safe, healthy and happy life. In order to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome abandoned dogs, we defined five objectives:

1. To remove the dogs from the temporary dog shelter based on the garbage dump to the “Land of Happy Dogs” – the unique dog shelter built and managed in accordance with dogs’ needs and nature.
2. To provide the chance for each dog from the shelter to be adopted to responsible and trustable national and international adopters.
3. To reduce the number of stray dogs in the municipality by raising awareness for responsible dog ownership, and by organizing actions for neutering of stray and owned dogs.
4. To protect animal rights and decrease different forms of cruelty towards animals by reporting perpetrators to the authorities and lobbying for implementation of sanctions prescribed by the Law.



The shelter that we were running in period August 2015 – November 2019 was made by local government in year 2010, as its legal obligation, but when we came it was abandoned and in terrible condition – there were just hungry, thirsty and sick dogs wandering around the garbage dump, where this shelter of 190m² was actually made. In these chaotic circumstances we took over to manage this municipal „shelter“, **but only as a temporary solution.**

Until November 2019 we had around 100 dogs placed on 790m², operating in extremely unhealthy environment. Regardless of our efforts the grounds was fully unsuitable in terms of maintaining the hygiene. Poisonous water from garbage dump were flushing directly into the shelter and the whole area was inhabited with rats, so there was a constant risk of spreading dangerous diseases. It was literally impossible to clean dogs of parasites, fleas and ticks because the area is contaminated and all our efforts mostly were gone in vain. The ground was infected with parvovirus and that had disastrous consequences on mortality of the puppies. The accommodation facilities for dogs were extremely small and in very bad condition. There was no quarantine, so diseases were spreading rapidly. Furthermore, there was no proper storage facility and housing for workers, no electricity, while water supply was improvised, so during summers we had problems with water shortage, while during the winter the water pipes were frozen.



From the very first day our mission is to remove the dogs from dangerous, unhealthy, depressing, degrading and inhumane garbage dump to the “Land of Happy Dogs”, where abandoned dogs will live in a scenic and healing environment among human and animal friends - until adoption.

With that aim, in year 2016 Board members bought the land size 18.500 square meters, installed the fence and it gave it to the association SRCEZAŠAPU to build new dog shelter and manage it in a long-term.

After two years of exhausting administrative procedure and obstructions of local government, in July 2018, we finally got the Building Permission and started with works.



With satisfaction and pride we can say that our first objective is fulfilled. In November 2019, SRCEZAŠAPU opened the doors of the Land of Happy Dogs and moved all dogs from the landfill shelter.

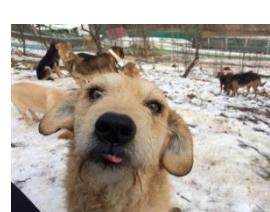
The shelter is comprised of three houses for collective accommodation, each measuring 15.6 m x 5.40 m.



Dog houses are surrounded by spacious courtyards for playing and running. This concept of the shelter allows free movement for each animal and socializing with people and we are especially proud of that.



In addition to these facilities, the shelter has a quarantine with 10 kennels, one smaller puppy facility, as well as a dog reception and bath facility that is, for the moment, used as a storage room and kitchen also.



Members of the SRCEZAŠAPU Governing Board are:

- Dževad Karabeg, the Founder
- Eni Kurtović, the Founder
- Ivona Čelebičić, Board member
- Zlatan Nikolić, Board member
- Zlata Schaub, Board member



Since organization does not have professional management staff, Founders voluntarily perform tasks related to the planning, organizing and overseeing the human, financial and material resources of the organization, keeping dog records, reporting, promoting and establishing contacts with possible partners, fundraising etc. However, the favourite part of our job remains work in the shelter and hugging the dogs.

The shelter that we run has a permanent employment relationship with two people – in year 2022 they were Selma Huzejrović (veterinarian technician) and Emina Zec. In addition to them, Lamija Ibrišimović and Omer Hadžahmetović were hired as temporary workers in the shelter. They took care of the dogs seven days a week, during the working hours from 08.00 to 16.00.



The capital investment in building the Land of Happy Dogs is exclusively funded by us who are the founders, with support from our friends and sympathizers, without contribution from any foundation or governmental institution.

Acknowledgments to our Supporters & Donors

Elvira Jakupović, Margarethe Reck, Zerina Jašarević, Suzana Kozinović Ličanin, Vesna Bajšanski Agić, Zlatan Nikolić, Azra Pulić, Aida Vežić, Minela Grabovica, Dobrila Mikac, Azra Pulić, Azra Alić, Zlatan Muratagić, Aida Kurtagić, Semira Selman Kašmo, Muhamed Bajrić, Amra Alajbegović, Mirjana Čačić Hadžiselimović, Zlata Schaub, Marcel Wildhaber, Branko Babić, Petra & Jackie, Sunita Kazić, Lina and Willi Neumann, Frida & Františka, Nejla Ključanin, Lejla Deljković, Amor Lisić, Lana Subašić, Darinka Mešić, Ismet Kržalić, Iris Ocvirk, Nada Stievater, Saida & Amir Karabeg, Fatima Jahić, Tadoo group, Bernadette Bašić, Alma Mečević, Azemina Kostić, Adriana Jurišić, Inesa Zukić, Vanesa Balić, Lejla Grgić, Ludmila Šelenberg, Anita Schedler, Amna Čehajić, Svjetlana Popović, Manuela Mayerhofer, Ramin Schariatzadeh, Ruth Wildhaber, Melita Peter, Liliane Bee, Sudka Stitz, Goran Bergoč, Muhamed Bajrić, Denis Šarčević, Emilia Okanović, Liliane Bee, Ann Missine, Bahra Agičić, Sanela Macanović and Sandra & Alisa Kiker, MEAD doo, Seelenhunde - Vergiss mein nicht, Klavertje vier voor elkdier, SPCA International and MAWT.

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Transaction account for Bosnia and Herzegovina: Udruženje Srce za šapu, Husimovci 207, Sanski Most; UniCredit banka, broj računa 3385402228757744

Foreign currency account: UniCredit Bank d.d. Mostar; Kardinala A. Stepinca bb, 88000 Mostar; Bosna i Hercegovina; Beneficiary: Association SRCE ZA ŠAPU; Husimovci 207, Sanski Most, post code 79260; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Acc: 20026268101; S.W.I.F.T. UNCRBA22; IBAN: BA39 3385 4048 2876 0779