

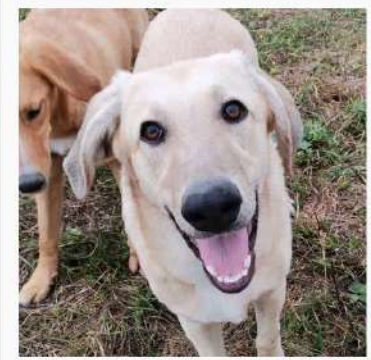
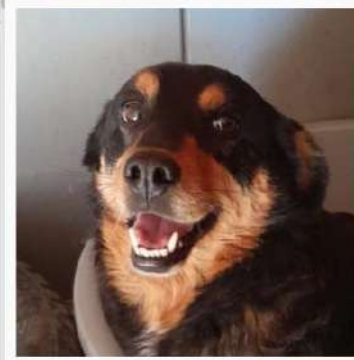


2024

ANNUAL

REPORT

SRCEZAŠAPU
THE LAND OF DOGS



Dear friends,

As we reflect on the past year, it is with mixed emotions that we present this summary of our work at SRCEZAŠAPU. While we are grateful for the progress made, we cannot ignore the disappointment regarding the number of adoptions – there was an increase comparing to the previous years, but that is still not on satisfactory level, despite our best efforts.

On a brighter note, the dogs in the shelter are healthy, and we haven't faced any major challenges that couldn't be successfully addressed. We completed significant construction projects this year, creating a safer and more comfortable environment for the dogs. Conflict among dogs, a primary challenge in a cage-free shelter environment, has shown signs of decreasing. However, it remains a significant issue that requires ongoing attention through careful monitoring of their interactions and placements. We ended the year on a positive note by hiring another dedicated staff member. This addition has greatly enhanced the quality of care and socialization provided to our dogs, ensuring they are better prepared for adoption.

None of this would have been possible without your support. From our donors to our cherished dog sponsors, your contributions have been essential—not only for the survival of the Land of Dogs and its inhabitants, but also for improving the lives of the dogs in our care.

A heartfelt thank you goes to our main donor - the TAO Foundation (Germany), as well to the Seelenhunde Vergeis Mein Nicht (Austria) for their generous contributions, without which we could not have made it through this year.

We are heartened by the growing number of individuals who support our mission – our devoted dog sponsors, whose consistent monthly support is a lifeline for our shelter, as well as all the individuals who made one-time donations - each of these gestures has meant the world to us.

Many thanks to the Bosniske Hunde (Denmark), which donated 6 dog houses made of thermal insulation panels, as well as to anonymous donors from Croatia who financed the construction of beautiful yard for 10 puppies rescued from the streets of our town.

We are happy to have Dino Kurtović who creates our promotional videos and the Red Sun graphic studio which maintains our website and designed the 2025 calendar, all at no cost.

We deeply appreciate the visitors who brightened our shelter with their presence this year, bringing joy to both our dogs and our team.

Finally, we want to recognize the incredible friends who are always there when we need advice, technical assistance, favors, or volunteer engagement in the shelter. Dear Zlata Schaub, Marcel Wildhaber, Aida Vežić, Dina Delić, Dinka Idrišimbegović, Suzana Špiljak, Anja Sučić, Ivana Popović, Petra Krupaerova and Adhana M. Čamdžić - your unwavering support means a lot to us.

To all our supporters, volunteers, and staff, we extend our deepest gratitude. Your kindness fuels our mission and brings hope to every wagging tail in our shelter. Together, let's continue to create brighter futures for the abandoned dogs from Sanski Most.

*With deepest appreciation,
Eni and Dževad, SRCEZAŠAPU Founders*



Dogs & Dogs' Health

The number of dogs in the shelter fluctuated between 150 and 160 throughout the year – as some were adopted, others arrived, primarily puppies, a total of 21. We had three fatalities: Lou passed away from snake bite, Gara from shock following a dog attack, while Rija, whom we left in her kennel healthy and unharmed the night before, was found dead the next morning – the veterinarian could not determine the cause of her death.

Venomous snakes appeared as early as March, and during the spring, there were five cases of snake bites. Thanks to the swift intervention of the veterinarian, four dogs survived.

The dogs were treated twice with Prazimec D tablets, which offer protection against internal and external parasites. However, these tablets are not particularly effective against fleas and ticks, especially during the spring and summer when infestations peak. For this reason, the dogs were additionally bathed in Ektanon solution in July, a product designed to combat external parasites.

Ektanon solution is inexpensive but highly toxic and hazardous to humans with prolonged exposure during treatment. The instructions warn against extended inhalation or contact with skin and eyes. Proper use requires full protective gear, including waterproof clothing, aprons, gloves, goggles, and masks, but these measures are impractical when bathing multiple dogs for hours. For this reason, we decided to discontinue the use of Ektanon and this year successfully procured and treated the dogs with Simparica Trio tablets, which effectively combat both external and internal parasites.

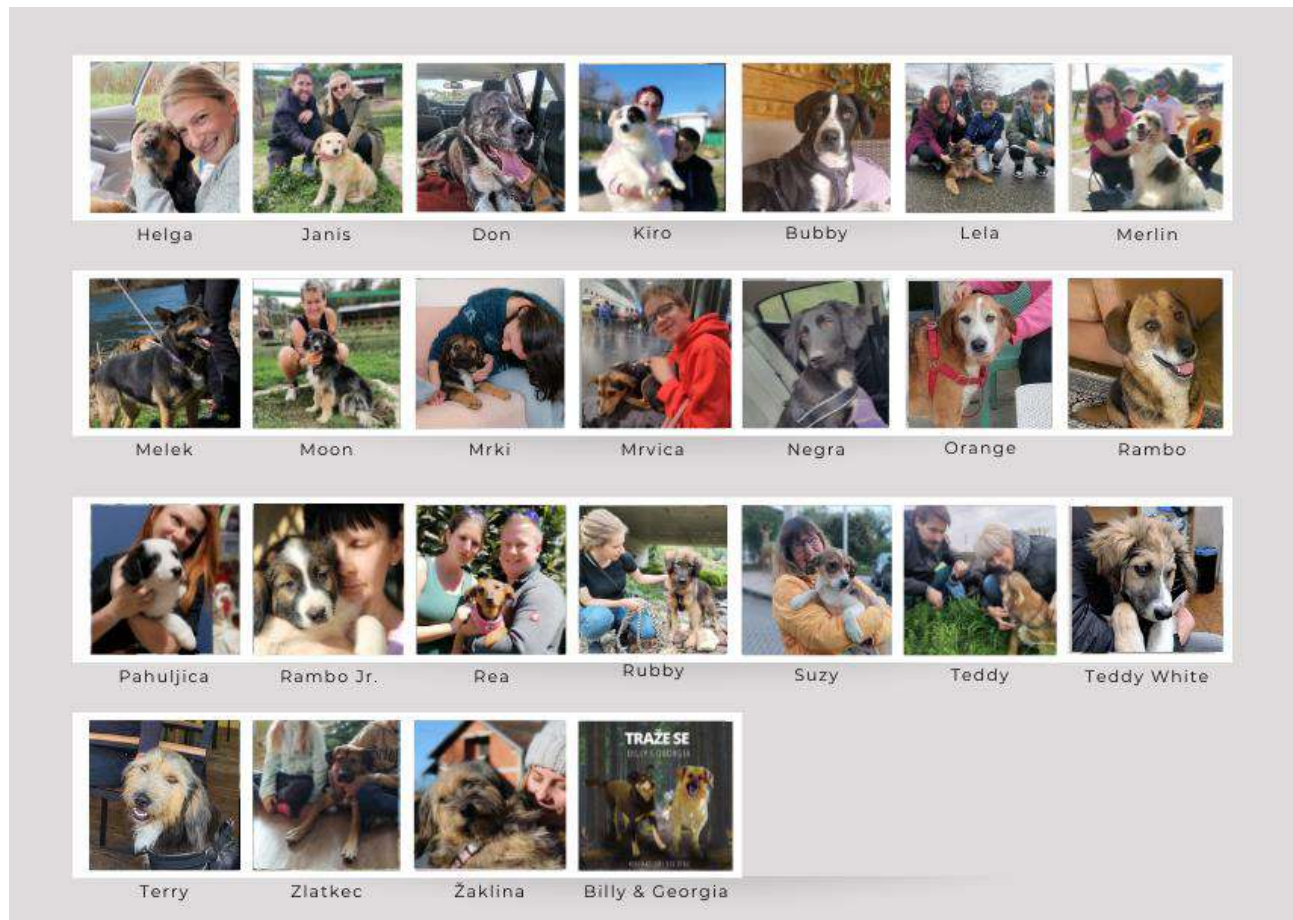


In addition to routine vaccinations and minor veterinary procedures that could be performed by local vet, comprehensive veterinary examinations were necessary for Iris, Noah, Mirta, and Teddy. These were conducted in Banja Luka and Prijedor.

Considering the conditions in which they live, the dogs are generally in good health. However, we are concerned about the large number of older dogs, many of whom have been here since 2015. In the coming period, we anticipate an increase in health issues among senior dogs.

Adoption

In 2024, we had twice the number of adopted dogs than in the previous year - a total of 26 dogs. 11 of them have been adopted in Croatia, 5 in Germany, 3 in Austria, 3 in Bosnia, 2 in Denmark, 1 in Slovenia, 1 in Nederland, and 1 in Sweden. Special thanks to Seelenhunde - Vergiss mein nicht for helping us with adoptions in Austria and Germany, especially with adoption of the blind puppy Teddy.



In year 2023, 13 dogs have been adopted from our shelter and this is a significant increase, but still, we are not satisfied, we expected more – the inhabitants of our shelter expect much, much more. In addition, two dogs that we adopted in Croatia in November 2024 ran away from the adopter's yard the very next day and, with great efforts and financial investments by volunteers from Croatia, the search for them is still ongoing. This unfortunate event added bitterness to the end of the year...

When we look at the statistics of most shelters in Croatia, where an average of 350 dogs are adopted annually, it depresses us a lot. Of course, we are aware that the adoption culture in Bosnia cannot be compared to Croatia, but the question arises why adopters from Croatia and other EU countries do not show more interest for dogs from our shelter. We have done as much as we can to make the adoption process as easy as possible for adopters - apart from the checking and adoption contract necessary to ensure that the dog goes into safe hands (which all serious shelters do), a whole additional "complication" is the health certificate required for entry of dogs into the EU, and travel costs - and if the adopter cannot come to pick up the dog, then we do that too - we drive dogs to adopters or organize transportation through transport organizations.

Certainly, in the coming period adoption will continue to be our priority. That's the only way the dogs in our shelter can have happy, fulfilled life, and that's the only way all the other abandoned dogs from the streets of our town can be saved and given the opportunity for happy, fulfilled life.

Maintaining & Upgrading the Shelter

Maintaining a 14,500-square-meter property is an ongoing challenge involving a variety of tasks: mowing grass, repairing electrical and water installations, filling sand and holes, daily patching of damaged fences, replenishment of straw, painting the fences ... without talking about cleaning the boxes and meadows in all weather conditions. For smaller jobs requiring craftsmen and additional labor, payments were made in cash using private funds from the Founders, which are not reflected in the financial statements.



In addition to regular maintenance, significant investments were made in 2024 to upgrade the shelter. To accommodate puppies, one kennel was expanded in the old part of the shelter, and in the new section, a beautiful yard with a playground for dogs was built, fulfilling the wishes of anonymous donors.

Major projects also involved constructing five kennels on the so-called “Large Meadow.” These were designed to house traumatized and timid dogs from the shelter who could not integrate into packs and were victims of bullying.

Furthermore, due to a mouse infestation caused by a lack of proper food storage, we constructed a dedicated storage facility. This significantly streamlined operations, reduced the risk of contamination, and minimized food losses caused by rodents.

Lastly, we addressed the issue of wastewater overflow by building an additional septic tank, which resolved this long-standing problem.



Human Resources

Thanks to the financial support of our donors and sponsors, we were able to hire a third employee by the end of this year. This addition was crucial for the shelter's proper functioning, considering the legally required staff-to-dog ratio, and more importantly the unique setup of the Land of Dogs. Unlike most shelters, it operates on a vast expanse of land, which inherently demands extra effort from the staff. Hiring a third worker allowed more attention to be paid to the dogs - their socialization, play, walks, combing and grooming, etc. This significantly improved their life at the shelter.

It has to be noted that financial constraints are not the only challenge when it comes to hiring shelter workers. In a small town like Sanski Most, where many people have emigrated abroad and where empathy for animals is often lacking among those who remain, it is incredibly difficult to find employees who are responsible, proactive, dedicated, and willing to work under challenging conditions—whether it's rain, snow, or intense heat—to ensure the dogs in the shelter have the best possible living conditions.



Omer, Maida, and Majda embody these qualities, and we are endlessly grateful to have them on our team.

* *

In addition to the hands-on work at the shelter, where there is always something to be done, the founders of the organization handle all aspects of shelter management on a voluntary basis. This includes maintaining dog records and individual files, monitoring their health status, managing adoptions and communication with adopters, overseeing human resources, procurement, financial tracking and reporting, fundraising, and public relations, including development of promo materials and managing social media.

Visibility & Support

Spreading the story of the Land of Dogs is crucial for adoption and raising funds for shelter operational cost. Alongside intensive activity on our social media platforms and regular updates to our website, this year, with the financial support of an anonymous donor, we printed calendars for 2025, which not only served as a valuable promotional tool but also generated significant funds to support the shelter's operations. During the distribution of the 2025 calendars, we received significant logistical support from Mozaik Start-up Studio (Sarajevo), and from Lani Dental Studio, and dog sponsors Ivana & Bojan (Zagreb)."

Increased visibility also positively impacts the quality of life for the dogs in our shelter. For example, a group of friends of the Land of Dogs from Zagreb expressed a desire on several occasions to bring special joy to the dogs. Thanks to their initiatives, the dogs enjoyed dried chicken wings and other delicious treats throughout the year, occasionally indulged in premium dry food, played with gifted toys, splashed around in small pools, and even had a warm beef stew for lunch on one special occasion. It is precisely these "small" gestures that make a big difference.

The success of promotional efforts is best reflected in the number of visits to the shelter, which bring immense joy to the dogs. The great majority of visitors come from other countries - Croatia, Austria, Sweden, Denmark, Germany, Switzerland, Bosnia, USA, UK and Spain. We would like to highlight the visit of a couple from Croatia who spent two wonderful days with us, and two dogs, Žučo and Alfie, had the privilege of going on an outing to Dabar Cave and experience a small glimpse of the outside world.



At the very end of the year something nice and unusual happened -we hosted students from the Agricultural School's Veterinary Department in Sanski Most. We hope this marks the beginning of greater interest from local residents, encouraging them to improve the lives of the shelter's dogs through volunteer work.



Financial Information

The crucial partnership with the TAO Foundation from Germany continued into 2024. Through this collaboration, a monthly grant of EUR 2,000 was secured, covering 37,3 % of the shelter's annual budget. Additionally, the support from the Austrian organization Seelenhunde - Vergiss mein nicht, which regularly raises funds for our shelter, has also remained steadfast, while Bosniske Hunde from Denmark provided funds for purchase of dog houses.

The number of individual donors has grown significantly, whether through the well-established dog sponsorship program or through ad-hoc donations. We would like to highlight several key initiatives by our supporters: Zlata Schaub & Marcel Wildhaber fundraising campaign in Switzerland, Petra Krupaerova from the Czech Republic, who once again organized vege fundraising party for SRCEZAŠAPU, and a GoFundMe campaign launched by Mia Nalić from the USA.

Throughout the year, we conducted several issue-based campaigns that allowed individual donors to help address urgent needs. For example, in July, we launched a campaign to procure costly antiparasitic treatments, and in January 2024, we ran a campaign to fund the construction of a food storage facility.

DONATIONS	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL BAM
TAO Foundation	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.931	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.912	3.912	46.963
Seelenhunde		391	978	685		527	489			489	391	352	4.302
Bosniske Hunde										1.504	755		2.259
Individuals	8.263	5.688	5.539	2.987	2.861	4.834	10.829	6.295	7.670	3.882	3.643	9.861	72.352
	12.175	9.991	10.429	7.584	6.773	9.273	15.249	10.207	11.582	9.787	8.701	14.125	125.876
COSTS	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL BAM
Food for dogs	3.055,80	3.153,02	2.702,90	2.148,57	2.876,30	4.702,40	2.291,17	4.017,20	4.500,92	2.346,30	4.279,41	1.801,78	37.875,77
Vets & Medicines	396,00	513,90	596,90	1.440,75	567,75	400,10	4.422,14	496,20	496,20	583,90	921,24	110,00	10.945,08
Salaries	2.407,25	2.780,22	2.140,22	2.459,72	2.476,22	2.508,22	2.460,22	2.464,50	3.026,75	2.456,50	3.764,48	4.271,46	33.215,76
Upgrading the shelter	87,69	570,75		1.484,00	4.971,77	2.192,74	3.676,37	579,19	194,61	3.536,86	4.003,15	4.084,58	25.381,71
Adoption costs			302,94	935,31	220,02	0,00	0,00	561,23	285,59	91,01	432,99	525,64	3.354,73
Operational costs	644,36	349,86	503,64	464,38	198,81	198,58	251,00	312,49	196,31	330,44	195,06	1.469,34	5.114,27
Book-keeping	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	150,00	234,00	234,00	234,00	234,00	234,00	2.220,00
Bank fee	63,52	72,01	67,31	51,91	70,75	59,14	119,94	96,49	57,58	97,12	78,80	75,72	910,29
	6.804,62	7.589,76	6.463,91	9.134,64	11.531,62	10.211,18	13.370,84	8.761,30	8.991,96	9.676,13	13.909,13	12.572,52	119.018

It has taken many years of hard work, but we are happy to report that, for the first time in our history, the founders did not have to use their personal funds to cover expenses paid through the association's account. That said, certain costs requiring cash payments—such as hiring temporary workers, engaging maintenance professionals for the shelter, or purchasing and transporting straw and construction materials—were still borne by the founders. Nevertheless, when we look at the financial trends over the past five years, during which we were often forced to sell personal assets to cover shelter expenses, we see a gradual and steady increase in donations. This progress is a testament to our dedication and the trust we have earned through our work ... and huge relief from the fear of the uncertain future of the inhabitants of the Land of Dogs.

Percentage of participation private funds of the founder for expenses that were paid through the association's account

2019:
78%

2020:
56%

2021:
48%

2022:
48%

2023:
21%

2024:
0%

A Little More Beauty to End With

- LAND OF DOGS -



But it's still just an asylum for ABANDONED DOGS



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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

Link for on-line donations: <https://doniraj.ba/organization/view/srce-za-sapu>