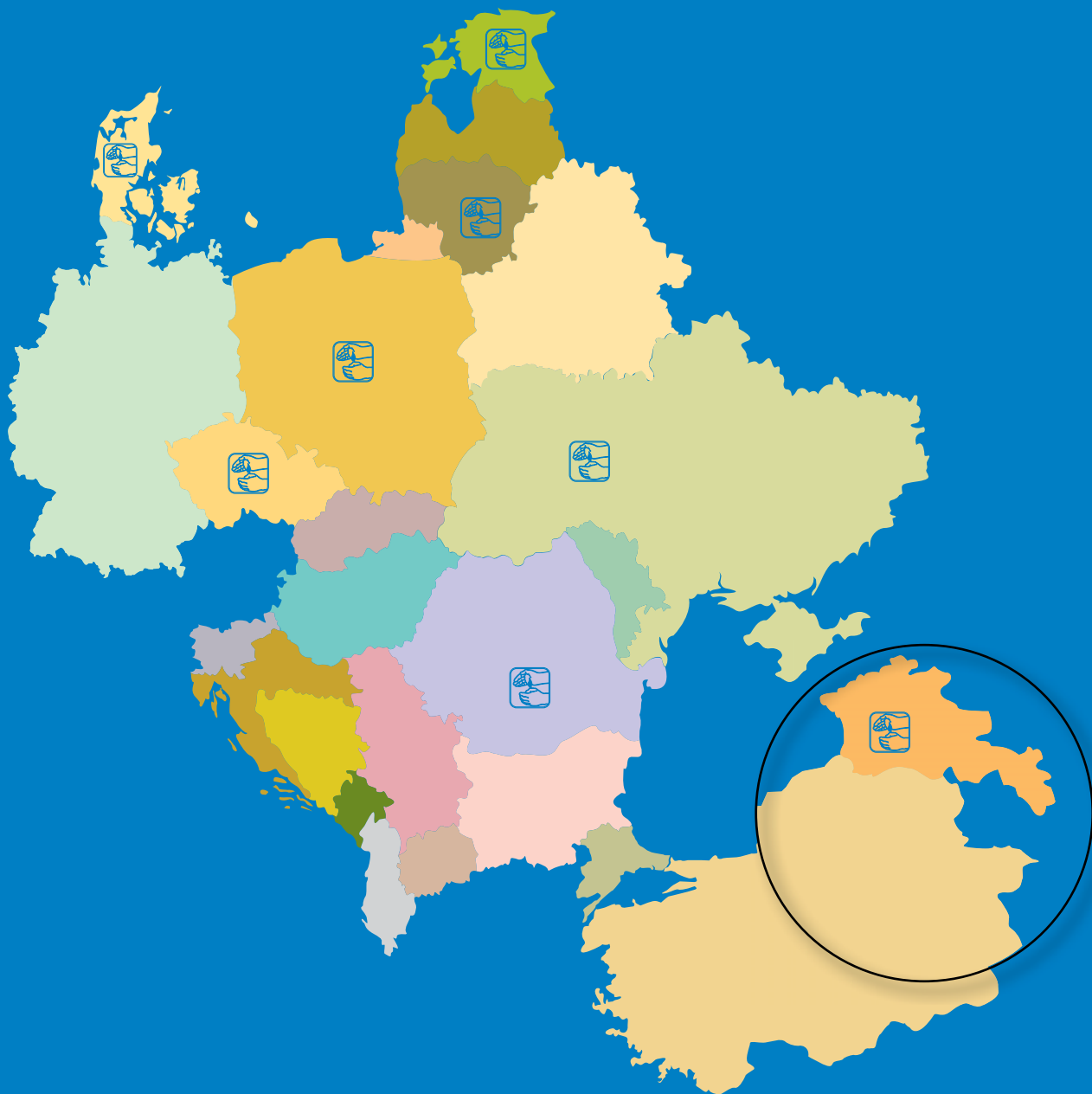


# Kofoed's School International



**Kofoed's School**  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNEMPLOYED  
THROUGH EMPOWERMENT



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THROUGH EMPOWERMENT

2010

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# INTRODUCTION TO KOFOED'S SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL

*By Ole Meldgaard, Head of International Relations*

**In the 1990's** Kofoed's School had a rising number of foreign contacts with visits from all over the world. Without any priority we could mention guests from USA, Canada, Japan, Russia, Australia, Germany, Belgium, Poland, Holland, Hungary, Estonia, Lithuania, Ukraine, England, Scotland, Ireland and the Scandinavia countries.

The school staff began travelling on study and lecture tours to foreign institutions and conferences. In a couple of cases it resulted in establishing partnerships with foreign projects. In the early 1990's the school co-operated with a project in Dublin, and in 1997 the school was given money for a music project, which involved a co-operation with four foreign projects for young people. A folder was written in English about the school. It was sent out to foreign embassies, and the school received an increasing amount of foreign literature on social questions.

There was an extended co-operation especially with Poland. With financial aid from among others the democracy fund the school held courses for Poles. The contact to Poland goes back to the post war years and was intensified during the 1980's with contacts to the pedagogical faculty at the Warsaw University. Along the way the idea of transforming the Kofoed School ideas to Polish institutions was born. In the beginning the transformation was planned as mutual study visits. Several groups from Poland have visited Kofoed's School, and school staff has been to Poland to give lectures and render practical help to projects. Among other things the school has renovated an institution for drug addicts north of Warsaw, and it has given dentist equipment to another institution and has inspired institutions in Gdansk and Poznan with the Kofoed ideas. The director of the school, Jens Aage Bjørkøe, was especially engaged in Polish conditions, and in 1997 he became Doctor of Philosophy at the University of Warsaw based on a thesis on „Help to self help“. His thesis was later published by a Polish publishing house.

Gradually the plans of establishing a branch of Kofoed's School in Poland took form. In May 1997 Kofoed's School was visited by social workers from Siedlce which is placed approximately 100 kilometres east of Warsaw. The object of the visit was „How do we establish a Kofoed's School in Poland?“ The Poles were given lessons not only in the Kofoed principles, but also in “how to build an organization”. It was agreed to establish an association with the aim to spread Hans Christian Kofoed's social pedagogic ideas in Poland.

**The first school** was established in July 1997 in Siedlce. It was inaugurated in January 1998. The aim of the school was to give help to self help for people with social problems like unemployment, homelessness, abuse, previous prisoners and young criminals. A staff member from Kofoed's School in Copenhagen helped out in establishing the school. She was stationed in Poland for a year.

The school was soon established with ten programmes: therapy for abusers, consultation for women exposed to violence, legal consultation, telephone consultation, computer courses, English classes, courses in everyday law, and a clothes depot. It took only a few days before students were queuing up to get into the school, and after a few months, the school was given a new, larger building which was restored with means from the Danish foreign office.



Two more schools were established during the summer of 1998: One in Poznan and one in Warsaw. The school in Poznan was established in co-operation with an already existing Polish NGO, Barka. Barka had for many years

worked for the homeless in the rural districts. The school was organized in a large building situated centrally in Poznan, and again with help from the Danish foreign ministry, some rebuilding was undertaken, so that the school could offer 28 programmes to the homeless in Poznan.

The program held: Social advice, shelters, ca- teen, nursery school, food depot, clothes and furniture depot, collection and sorting of building

material, second hand shops, food shop, tailor shop, carpenter shop, smithy, electricity workshop, creative workshop, EDP classes, transport section, re-cycling station, cleaning section, laundry, baths, language classes offering English and German, a book binder workshop, a building section, an information service, therapy for addicts, and an ambulatory clinic with first aid, personal hygiene and a dentist. From the start more than 200 persons used the school daily, on a monthly basis more than 800 persons sought the school. They were homeless, long term unemployed, alcoholics, families or lone parents with children who had been thrown into the street, when they could not pay their rent or their electricity bill.

In Warsaw a school was established in a one thousand square metre building on the outskirts of the city. The building had formerly been used for agricultural purposes. The first task was to clean up after the animals and rebuild cowshed and barn. The first project was to rebuild a small building that had been used for storing hay and straw for the cattle. It was rebuilt and arranged with room for six homeless persons, who were to move out of a treatment shelter for alcoholics. After the rebuilding they moved into the school and helped to remake the cowshed to a place with rooms, kitchen, toilet, bath, classrooms and workshops. Here again the Danish foreign ministry helped out with money. The school had room for 20 homeless and it was set up with workshops and teaching for the community's poor and outcast people.



The schools soon got a lot of attention from the media and they were well known in Poland. Before establishing the schools, a lot of preparatory work had been done in the relevant Polish ministries and among the local politicians in order to gain understanding for the necessity of active social pedagogic methods. Several Polish civil servants, social scientists, and social workers had visited Kofoed's School in Copenhagen, and the Kofoed thoughts enjoyed such a spreading in Poland that in some instances they influenced Polish legislation, e.g. in the form of activation programmes for the social outcast persons. In the notes to the presentation of the act, the Kofoed's School model was mentioned several times as example and inspiration. Other NGOs were also partly or fully inspired by the Polish schools.

**The Danish foreign ministry** evaluated the schools in 2000. The evaluation concluded that the schools

were a success and that they were examples of a praxis that would influence the development in social work and social policy in Poland. Seen on the background of the schools' results, the evaluation pointed to the importance of finding local responsible and engaged partners and leaders, and to the importance of a good co-operation between the schools and the local authorities, so that the schools were integrated and anchored in the local society together with a productive and broad co-operation between Kofoed's School in Copenhagen and the Polish schools.

Kofoed's School was also involved in social work in Estonia, in Tartu, where the Kofoed methods were transferred to a shelter for street children. The shelter was set up with a woodwork shop and with rooms for EDP classes and sewing. Through a period it was possible to hire staff to help socially threatened children with doing homework, and to give them food and care. A co-operation was established with the social authorities to work with children and youth that shirked school and formed gangs, that drifted in the streets. The school staff did seeking-out work in town and they succeeded in getting many of the youngsters

to come to the school, where they were given care. In order to get something to eat, they had to participate in the school activities. The youth were to a wide extent without norms, and the activities at the school were used to teach them a normal behaviour. The Estonian school had been given a bag full of Kofoed dollars – the internal exchange at Kofoed's School – which the youngsters could earn by working in the school workshops. The Kofoed dollars could be spent on buying food at the school, or they could be saved up to buy e.g. cinema tickets, so that the young men could invite their girlfriends to the cinema or the like. Among the students were several ethnical Russians, who were given classes in Estonian.

In Vilnius in Lithuania Kofoed's School got in contact with an organization that worked with rehabilitation of freed prisoners, Lithuanian Prisoner's Aid Association. The organization had by the church been given the free use for 25 years of a building of 1000 square metres – in exchange for repairing and making it useable. The Danish government and a Dutch foundation raised the necessary money and the school was inaugurated in the beginning of 2001 with programmes especially intended for former prisoners and crime threatened youth, but also homeless, alcoholics and other groups of social outcasts.

The school was arranged with workshops for woodwork, metalwork, kitchen, classrooms for EDP-teaching, English, singing and music, sewing, drawing and painting, and consulting. The students took part in the rebuilding, which was carried out by a professional firm, and they were paid in kind in the form of bread, sausage, cheese and cigarettes. As the first institution in Lithuania the school received prisoners as a preparation to their coming release. They were here re-socialised outside the prison in a full day program including the school's workshops. The schoolwork and methods were evaluated and became an important component of the further development in re-socialising prisoners all over Lithuania. The school has now taken over a large building outside Kaunas, the second biggest town in the country, and a new Kofoed's School has been built here.

**Kofoed's Schools** have also been established in the Czech republic. The work was started by two Czechs who had come to Denmark as fugitives, and who after a short stay at Kofoed's School were so impressed by the school's methods and activities, that they started to use them in their homeland. A support association was established in Ostrava in the Northeast of the country. However, it was not until Kofoed's School got in contact with the Slezská Diakonie, that the work really started. A Czech student attached to the Slezská Diakonie was granted a study in Copenhagen to write her diploma about Kofoed's School. The diploma was written in such a character that it could spread knowledge of Kofoed's School in the Czech republic. In a very short span of time a number of schools were established in the country – and with a lot of support on top.

In 1999 a student from Armenia was on a sojourn to study at Kofoed's School in Poznan. That triggered the start of a school in Yerevan in Armenia. She was so taken in by what she saw and heard in Poznan, that she went home and started an association that was to work for the spreading of Kofoed's thoughts. The question of a Kofoed's School in Armenia was discussed in a government meeting and approved, because the government found the program important on the background of the difficult economical and social situation in the country. The Armenian State gave a large building to the association, which immediately started teaching languages. A grant from the Danish foreign ministry made it possible to undertake rebuilding to the effect of building rooms for homeless and

kitchen, teaching and workshop facilities. A grant from the Soros Foundation was used on a rehabilitation program for released prisoners and long term unemployed. The school is also engaged in a program for children and youth from very poor families in Yerevan.

Kofoed's School is also operating in Ukraine in cooperation with already established centres, Ahar and Aratta in Chernihiv, Narodna Dopomoha (People's Aid) in Chernivtsi and Oselya (Home) in Lviv. The schools in Chernivtsi and Lviv work for homeless people.

**The latest established** school is in Bucharest in Romania in cooperation with Foundation for Education. The students are young unemployed, romas and addicts.

The foreign schools have become a success. Not only have they succeeded in transferring the Kofoed's School methods, but the schools also took roots in the countries and have engendered national finance, so that they have survived. The schools are not copies of Kofoed's School in Copenhagen, and they vary as to the local needs, but they all have the same aim. That is to help people get started again when they have been left behind by the development and are in need of new qualifications in order to find work or a better and fuller life under new circumstances. The schools are established as self-governing institutions with their own statutes, boards and budgets. In this way they are no longer direct divisions of Kofoed's School and they are not directed from Copenhagen. Representatives from Kofoed's School are on the boards of the foreign schools. The contribution from Kofoed's School has mainly consisted in guiding, advising and supervising the schools. Meetings were held with the boards, the leaders and staff and students about pedagogical and social



questions. Meetings were held with politicians and civil servants about co-financing. Literature about Kofoed's School was translated and published, and the school has taken part in international conferences on poverty and social outcasts. For a number of years Kofoed's School often used the so-called democracy fund, which made it possible to finance study sojourns in Denmark for hundreds of social workers from the new democracies.

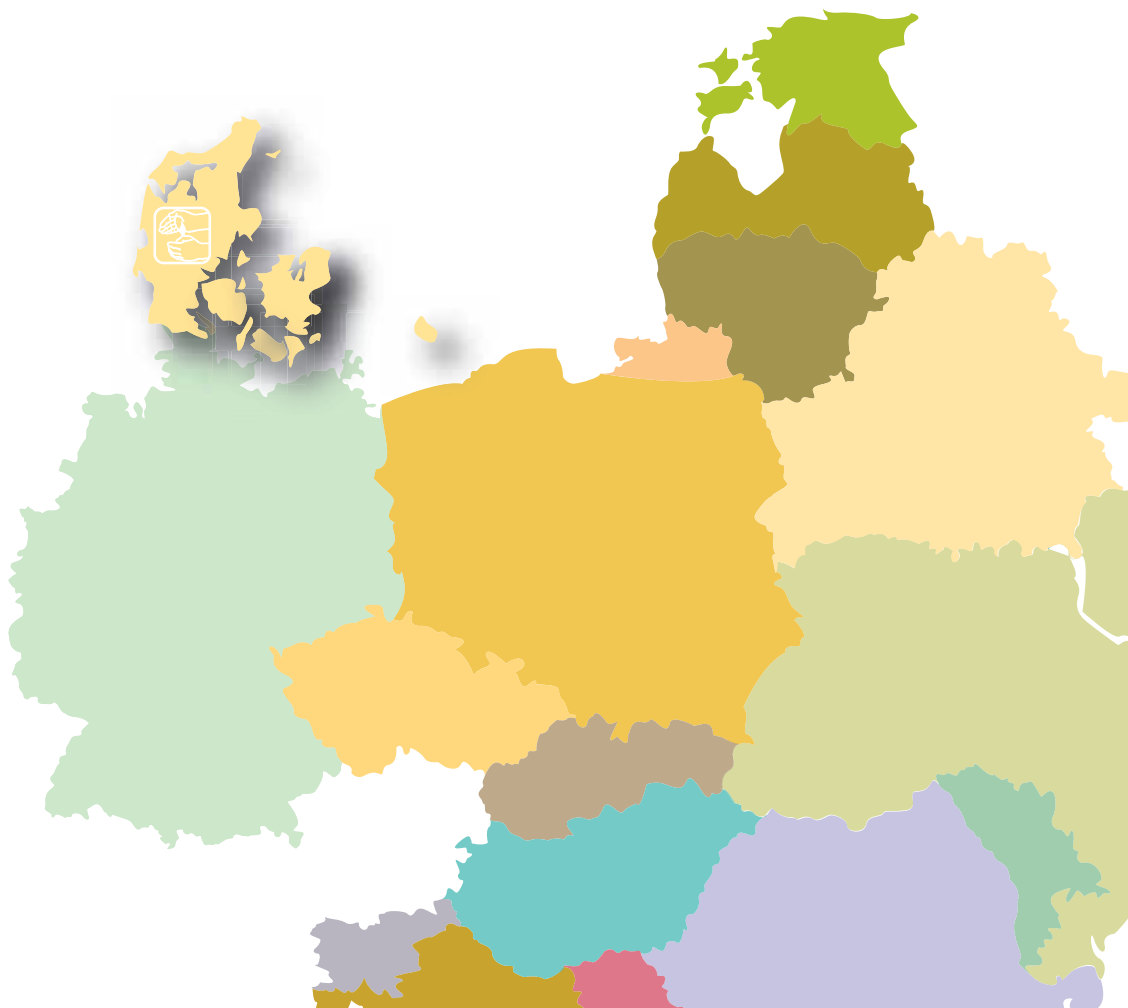
The strategy has been to take root in the national context and to strengthen leaders and staff to take over the responsibility of the schools and lead them



on. In this way the school has practised help to self-help. The first generation of leaders and staff at the school has been fiery souls who built up and established the new social pedagogic initiatives and made room for and found finance for the schools. Gradually the tasks have new characters in the form of implementation in legislation, commitment

to long-term co-operation and finance agreements, co-operation with government authorities and their own development initiatives, springing from local or national needs. This all-in-all points to the fact that the schools have found the proper projects to work on, and that they have developed an organizational ballast to handle the new challenges.





## DENMARK



### Kofoed's School

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Telephone.....	+45 3268 0200
E-mail .....	ks@kofoedsskole.dk
Homepage .....	www.kofoedsskole.dk
Director.....	Jens Aage Bjørkøe
Year of establishment.....	1928
Number of staff.....	175
Number of annual students (2008).....	3.600
Number of daily students .....	700

## Professions of the staff

Social workers, teachers, tutors, instructors, psychologist, legal profession, job consultant, social pedagogues, abuse consultants, family adviser.

## Description of activities

Workshop training, education, social advice and guidance, accommodation, outreach work, abuse treatment, services.

## Target groups

Socially excluded groups, long term unemployed, homeless, addicts, migrants, poor people, low educated, youth with social and psychological problems.

## Objective of the school

Kofoed's School works on a Christian and popular basis, which centres the individual's value and common rights. The school's aim is to do social work on a pedagogic development oriented basis, so that the students are helped to develop their own possibilities to live a satisfactory social and personal life. The designations „school“ and „student“ express a pedagogic principle, which accentuates the student's own active co-operation to development and change. The work method is help to self help. The school helps not just to help but to develop.

## A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

Kofoed's School was established in 1928 during the recession in an attempt to help unemployed people to get back to society. Over the years Kofoed's School has been involved in many types of social issues such as homelessness, unemployment, urban immigration, poverty, alcoholism, drug abuse, psychiatric problems and integration problems for ethnic groups. The school attempts to adjust to the changing social issues in society and offers its help where it is most needed. The efforts of the school have always been to target the poorest of people who experiences difficulties within society.

## Kofoed's School activities in Denmark

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kofoedskaelder@kofoedsskole.dk

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Phone +45 32 95 17 52  
Haugegård

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Haugegaard@kofoedsskole.dk

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hnu@kofoedsskole.dk

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oqqumut@kofoedsskole.dk



## POLAND



### Barka Kofoed's School: The center of Social Integration

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Telephone.....	+48 61 877 22 65
Fax: .....	+48 61 877 22 65
E-mail .....	sbarki@barka.org.pl
Homepage .....	www.barka.org.pl
Director.....	Tomasz Sadowski
Year of establishment.....	1998
Number of staff .....	20
Number of annual students (2008).....	150
Number of daily students .....	100

## What kind of professions

- a) house builder, plumber, locksmith, carpenter, sewer, cook, cleaner, babysitter, assistant of elderly and disabled people, shops assistant, guard, gardener, florist, hairdresser, beautician, office assistant, some participants can get a driver's license or truck license.
- b) leaders of social economy/training and „formation“ for staff and social workers.

## Description of activities

The school provides:

- Vocational workshops in professions as above and General courses in: entrepreneurship, social economy, ethics, English, methods of active job searching, history and literature seminar, self- educational groups.
- Social assistance, legal consultation assistance and psychological counseling for individuals and groups/workshops: personal motivation, life planning and other.
- Job advising and labor exchange – after some months of studying in our school the students have practical experience in normal work-places. They have a lot of fears but during that time they get to know the places and the employers get to know them; this often culminates in employment contracts.
- Daily access to a library and an Internet cafe at the School.
- Daily breakfast and hot lunches for our students.
- For the SLES students (School for Leaders of Social Economy): they meet once a week for 6 hours. One training last for 6 months.

## Target groups

- a) long term unemployed people (1 or more years), homeless people, those addicted to alcohol or drugs, former prisoners and refugees. All our students are referred to the School by the social welfare office. The student's stay at the School is limited to 12 months and in special cases it can be extended to 18 months. During that time they receive a small scholarship.
- b) Staff of social offices, NGOs, local leaders, entrepreneurs, etc.

## Objective of the school

- a) Our objective is to integrate people who are in need with the society and with the labor market. We help people to establish their own cooperatives and small businesses.
- b) We also started a School for Leaders of Social

Economy (SLES) to prepare staff to new methods of social work. We wish that in the future we can open a formal school for people who want to work with those who are unemployed.

## A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

The Barka Kofoed's School in Pozna was established in 1998 in co-operation with the Kofoed's School in Denmark and the Barka Foundation in Poland. During the next six years it extended to 17 workshops and several self study groups.

**In the winter of 2003** the Polish Prime Minister visited the School. He was very impressed by this idea and invited the Barka Foundation to collaborate in creating a new law. After 2 years a group of people under Tomasz Sadowski's direction constructed a new law of social employment, which provides the base for Centers of Social Integration through education. The Kofoed's school model was used as example and inspiration.

**Since December 2004** the School has been run by an independent association, the Association of the Barka Kofoed's School – the Center of Social Integration which is distinct from the Barka Foundation. After the School received two grants from EU funds, the development went rapidly. Now we have over 60 study groups and we opened a new branch of the School in another location in Pozna (Piatkowo) in cooperation with local businesses and institutions.

**Since 2006** we've started a School for Leaders of Social Economy – education for staff and people who are interested in social economy and social integration. Annually there were 5 groups of about 20 people each. We are preparing to open a formal school to educate staff.

**Last year** the Centers of Social Integrations haven't received support from ESF. It happens in many cases in different regions of Poland. Unfortunately the main winners in competition on regional levels were commercial firms. This led in 2008 to decreasing a number of workshops, number of students and staff members in many Centers in Poland. The board members of Barka Kofoed School decided to work on developing some entrepreneurial activities providing income for the mission of the School. There is a discussion in Poland on how to create independency for the non-profit sector and if economization of the sector can be a solution.

## The Hans Christian Kofoed Association for Social Welfare, Rehabilitation and Resocialization in Siedlce

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Telephone .....	+48 25 632 41 90 +48 25 643 51 07
Fax: .....	+48 25 644 04 00
E-mail .....	kofoed@wp.pl
Director .....	Paweł Nasiłowski
Year of establishment .....	1997
Number of staff .....	11
Number of annual students (2008) .....	2800
Number of daily students .....	105

### What kind of professions

Psychologists, therapists, lawyer, advisors, social workers, administration staff members.

### Description of activities

„Aid to mutual aid“ program states that the persons who receive help can not get it for free. They have to be active through their voluntary work and fulfilling various obligations for the institutions which provide the help and for other people who use them. In this way they realize the program of social re-adaptation and mutual aid – in a conscious way they help themselves and other people. These principles and methods of work became the main statutory goal of the association.

### Target groups

- unemployed youths
- unemployed poor people, who due to their situation are in threat of getting involved in conflict with the law,
- offenders who serve non-isolative punishments and probation measures,
- ex-prisoners and their families
- alcoholics and drug abusers,
- homeless people,
- victims of violence,
- people who live in pathological societies,
- people who suffer from poverty.

### Objective of the school

Our task is to give knowledge, to show methods of proper behavior and to consolidate them, to help finding a hope and lost self esteem and dignity, what leads to the process of social inclusion of our students. We also help in gaining new personal skills and abilities, which are crucial during looking for a job and returning to the labour market.

### Short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

On the basis of Polish–Danish agreement about implementing of this project in Poland the local government of Siedlce turned over the Association for free buildings with lots. This generous act made possible receiving Danish financial aid from the Board of Kofoed School in Copenhagen and Danish government. These were purposeful grants for financing the most important stages of implementation of this program in Poland.

The undertaken organizational activities were dynamic and effective, because they engaged personally a lot of important persons and offices: especial representatives of the Board of Kofoed School in Copenhagen and Danish Helsinki Committee and representatives of local government (Presidents of Siedlce, members of the City Board, councilors); State's Offices (Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Social Policy, Prison Service), public administration (province governor of Siedlce region, directors of key-departments of Province Office); representatives of science. The mentioned persons created a group of founder members of the Association.

**In 2008** the association took part in the EQUAL program, which was in our part targeted on offenders, ex offenders and excluded people. The aim of the program was to begin their process of social inclusion and returning to the labour market by education and work training. In EQUAL program took part 321 offenders and their families.

## Stowarzyszenie Samopomocy Bursa im. H. Ch. Kofoeda, Warszaw

Address .....	Lniana 1 Street 03-889 Warsaw
Telephone.....	00 48 22 678 53 52 00 48 22 679 73 72
Fax: .....	00 48 22 679 73 72
E-mail .....	kofoed@go2.pl
Director .....	Wocieh Jodko
Year of establishment.....	1998
Number of staff.....	2
Number of annual students (2008).....	permanent – 80 temporary – 600.
Number of daily students .....	-

### Description of activities

The school is a NGO. It works according to Help to the self-help. The student is an active subject for the help he is given, and he himself is responsible for the result. At first we organize immediate help, and then we try to help our students to find their own personalities. The school is open for those who need social help. We provide education, learning, rehabilitation and accommodation.

The school uses work as a pedagogical way to develop practical skills and develop personalities of the participants, so the workshops are very important. This is the place that allows work training and socialization. We provide training in: polygraphics, tailoring, joinery, and gastronomy. We also provide:

- addicted to alcohol or drugs
- poor
- homeless
- unemployed

We are available to accommodate 24 students. Recruitment is being done via contacts with other NGOs, information in flyers and also via direct contact with the target group. Before accepting the new student there is a short interview.

### The aim of the school

The most important aim is full integration (if possible) into society. Also creating possibilities for new job qualifications are important - but also to develop the personalities of the students. We are trying to teach them other ways of spending leisure time than drinking. We also provide help in several ways depending on personal needs of the student for example:

- a place to live
- food
- socialization
- teaching
- helping to find their own way of life

Generally the school is trying to achieve two main aims:

- full success: the student starts to work and finds his/her own place in „normal“ life
- alternative or partial success: student is still living in the school but finds a job and tries to become independent

### History of the school

Stowarzyszenie Samopomocy Bursa im. H. Ch. Kofoeda is a non governmental organization based on Kofoeds School methods. We were registered in 1998 and we are a non-profit organization. We are situated in ex-PGR's buildings (PGR is an abbreviation of National Agriculture Community). The buildings were devastated and rebuilt by ourselves. The school provides a place to live for students of total space 350 m<sup>2</sup>. It also contains workshops space (600 m<sup>2</sup>), dining room, kitchen, bathrooms and offices. The school has given shelter to persons from other social institutions. During the summer holidays the school has been used as a place for children from poor families. We have also offered courses for persons who were permanently out of job.

In 2000 we started a polygraphic workshop and workshops for sewing and for joinery. In July 1998 the association started its activities in social help, education and psychology for the first 13 students. Till the end of 1999 the school provided help to 113 persons.

**The years 2000-2001** brought some kind of stabilization with hiring several employees. We started to co-

operate with Warsaw Mechanical Institute and with the University of Warsaw. The students of the University worked for the school as volunteers. In 2000-2001 we provided help to more than 560 people. We started to cooperate with „Christ Community“ and „No Borders“, a newspaper for homeless.

**In 2002** we started to implement the idea of „help to self-help“ in a more professional way. We started publications in mass media about our activities. We started 2 help-programs „Access 2000“ and „Program for people from violent communities“. During that year 8 persons found an independent way of living, 14 started to work, 6 went home to their families.

**In 2003** we organized a course of furniture's renovation. That gave us the opportunity to open additional workshops in this area. We organized a full computer science laboratory with access to World Wide Web. Volunteers made several computer science and English language courses. In 2003, in the school stayed 74 students, 18 students found independent ways of living. Also we provided additional help to 500 persons.

**In 2004** the most important thing was signing an agreement with the local government of the City of Warsaw in social help: „Social and job seeking activities for persons in need“. In 2004, in the school stayed 74 students, 13 students found independent ways of living. Also we provided additional help for about 480 persons.

**In 2005** we initiated two main programs: „Social and job seeking activities for persons in need“ and „Increase of availability of therapy and rehabilitation help for the people addicted to alcohol which stays without it“. Realization of this program was evaluated very high – 4,79 in 5 points scale. During the Christmas time we were realizing a TV program „Shelter under Angels“.

**In 2005** 75 students stayed in the school. 17 students found independent ways of living. Also we provided additional help to about 600 persons.

**In 2006** we were realizing two programs:

- „Social and job seeking activities for persons in need“
- „Preventing and fighting against social marginalization of groups of people and dealing with social problems“

In consequence of the program „Increase of availability of therapy and rehabilitation help for the people addicted to alcohol which stays without it“ four of our students finished the courses and they achieved licenses for running their own companies.

**In 2006**, the program from scope of society help was continued:

- „The social and professional activity of people in conditions of democratic community“ (5 years contract included with the office of Warsaw City for the period from 23.11.2004 to 30.11.2009)

### The new projects from the scope of social care

The district The contract included with district office of Warsaw – Targówek for the period from



22.05.2006 to 31.10.2006 - for the performing of cleaning work on the territory of district as therapy „work for the environment“

- „Prevention and fighting against minority of handicapped social groups and solving concrete social problems – unemployment“ (the contract included with office of Mazovian Governor on period from 12.05.2006 to 31.12.2006)
- „Increase of availability of therapy and rehabilitation for persons with alcoholic problem and members of their families; programs in clubs of social integrations; programs of support taken in local environment; program of social and professional reintegration for persons subordinated in recovery“. (contract included with office of Warsaw City for period from 15.09.2006 to 31.12.2006)
- „Return of homeless persons to society“ (the contract included with office of Mazovian Governor on period from 22.11. 2006 to 31.12. 2006)
- „Organization of Christmas help in December 2006 for the poor inhabitants of Warsaw, especially for homeless, handicapped and old persons by: organization Christmas Eve meetings, preparing Christmas parcels“ (the contract included with office of Warsaw City in 08.12.2006)

In realization of above mentioned programs of activity was being pursued:

- at the protecting nature
- at the activating nature

Realization of goals has taken place by performing functions in the face of students:

- protective
- therapeutic
- reintegration to the society

Working for Kofoed's School in Warsaw we are treating as a pedagogical center used to form practical abilities and develop features of personalities in students. We want to enable marginalized groups to share in better living standards and job opportunities.

Results of working were:

- awaking sense of personal value and opportunities
- activation in range of taking up or restarting of professional work

- developing of knowledge in range of abilities and professional qualification

In range of sensible spending free time, educational link is existing like:

- computer science courses (6 posts)
- English lessons

In the course of year:

- in Warsaw Kofoed's School we were able to accommodate permanently 75 students (everyone took a part of professional activation)
- by the year 16 students made themselves independent
- in different form help was given near to 600 persons

78 students took part in program called „Increase of accessibility of therapy and rehabilitation...“ Our success was that 4 persons were chosen by commission to continue training in institution for professional training after complete realization of above mentioned program. Realization of this was evaluated very high – 4,84 in 5 point scale (that's satisfying ourselves a lot).

60 students took part in program called „Organization of Christmas help“.

Working on the basis of Help to self help, we want to give help directed in content and form to people lost in actually reality, helpless in life, unemployed, addicted to alcohol or drugs. We want to increase the integration of these groups and to realize their capacities. Finally we could help such persons to regain their self-confidence so that they may overcome their problems on their own. Program goals have been realized in harmony with assumption.

**In 2007**, the programs from scope of society help were continued:

- „Social and professional activity of people in conditions of democratic community“ (5 year contract included with office of Warsaw City, for period from 23.12.2004 to 30.11.2009)
- „Activity of teetotaler clubs in favor to increase of availability to rehabilitant help for people subordinated from alcohol and members of their families, in recovery process; programs of social reintegration“ (3 year contract included with office of Warsaw for period from 23.11.2006 to 30.11.2009)
- „The contract included with district office

of Warsaw - Targówek for the period from 30.04.2007 to 31.10.2007 - for the performing of cleaning work on the territory of district as therapy work for the environment"

- „Social activity for the homeless people“ (contract included with Mazovian Governor for period from 25.05.2007 to 31.12.2007)
- „Organization of holiday help in December 2007 for the poorest inhabitants of Warsaw, by organization of Christmas Eve meetings and preparing Christmas parcels“ (contract included with office of Warsaw in 29.10.2007)
- „Activity which aim is to increase standards of institutions for homeless persons - shelters, night shelters“ (contract included with office of Warsaw City in 27.11.2007)

Program goals have been completely realized using professional activity, working for Warsaw Kofoed's School and other NGOs. In our action, we do not give help for free. We've got a rule: HELP FOR WORK. There is no doubt that learning how it's like to be in group with other people, working together, often is the biggest challenge for the students. According to the possibilities of each student, we want to achieve knowledge necessary for employment at

labor market. People, who cannot live with others, get a chance to take a part in community; in workshop.

In the course of year:

- in Bursa permanently stayed 74 students
- by the year 14 student became independent
- help was given to 550 persons

In realization of program „Activity of teetotaler clubs in favor to increase..." in lessons took part:

- daily - 10 - 15 persons
- by the year: 24 persons

By the year, all activities was led in close cooperation with other NGOs, who help people in hard living situation. Main partners in realization of our program goals were:

- office of Warsaw City
- office of Mazovian Governor
- office of district Warsaw - Targówek
- institution of social help for district Warsaw - Targówek



**In 2008**, the programs from scope of society help were continued:

- „Social and professional activity of people in conditions of democratic community“ (5 year contract included with office of Warsaw City for period of 23.11.2004 to 30.11.2009)
- „Activity of teetotaler clubs in favor to increase of availability to rehabilitant help for people subordinated from alcohol and members of their families in recovery process; programs of social reintegration“ (3 year contract included with office of Warsaw for period from 23.11.2006 to 30.11.2009)

New programs from scope of society help:

- Contract with Warsaw City – district Targówek included for a period from 01.04.2008 to 31.10.2008 - for the performing of cleaning work on the territory of district as therapy „work for the environment“
- Activity for each social groups and action which aim is to solve concrete social problems, in it:
- „Social-helping activity for homeless persons“ (contract included with Mazovian Governor office for period from 17.07.2008 to 31.12.2008)
- Organization of holiday help in December 2008 for the poorest inhabitants of Warsaw (contract included for period from 29.11.2008 to 31.12.2008)

Program goals have been completely realized. In our work, we act using a rule „Help to self-help“. We treat work as a pedagogical means, used to form practical abilities in students. Help is given for working in favor of Bursa. Our target groups are homeless people. We aim at improvement of students' knowledge, progress of people's abilities, renewal of self-confidence, encouragement to learn, active spending of free time and to return students back to work process.

By the year:

- in Bursa permanently stayed 75 students
- 14 students made themselves independent
- help was given near 400 persons

In realization of program „Activity of teetotaler clubs in favor to increase...” took part:

- daily: 10 – 15 persons
- by the year: 28 persons

Like in the past years, our activities were led in close cooperation with non – government organizations. Our main partners were:

- office of Warsaw City
- office of Mazovia Governor
- office of Warsaw – Targówek district
- institution of social help for district Warsaw – Targówek

**In 2009**, we continue the programs from scope of society help:

- „Social and professional activity of people in conditions of democratic community“ (5 year contract included with office of Warsaw City for period from 23.12.2004 to 30.11.2009)
- „Activity of teetotaler clubs in favor to increase of availability to rehabilitant help for people subordinated from alcohol and members of their families; programs of social reintegration“ (3 year contract included with office of Warsaw for period from 23.11.2006 to 30.11.2009)

A very important issue for society is to extend contracts of hiring property „PGR Bródno” (PGR is an abbreviation of National Agriculture Community). There society has got a headquarter for period from 07.01.2009 to 31.12.2014. Extending of contract allow us to undertake an action to make new programs using rule Help to self – help. There is still a problem with our personal staff which is still not growing as we expect from the authorities of Warsaw – that situation can not let us to create our work more effective.



## Mutual Aid Association „Beeing Together“ The Social Education Center Cieszyn

Address .....	43-400 Cieszyn, ul. Błogocka 30
Telephone.....	+48 33 8514430
Fax: .....	+48 33 8514430
E-mail .....	byczazem@wp.pl
Director.....	Anna Kot
Year of establishment.....	2001
Number of staff.....	8
Number of annual students (2008).....	59 – members of communities
Number of daily students .....	169 – people who received different kind of help

### Professions

Psychologist, social workers, carpenter, sewer, driver, ironworker, builder.

### Description of activities

#### Community programme:

Communities are functioning as multi-generational families, developing on basis of the idea of self/mutual help and co-operation with the neighbourhood and local societies.

#### Socioeducational programme:

This program has grown out of the belief that people from excluded groups need to participate in constant education in order to upgrade psychological and social skills, qualifications and knowledge, enabling their economic, social and psychological independence and integration into society. It consists of: meetings, lectures, workshops, self-support groups, trainings, formal education in school.

#### Work Training programme:

The members of community and all CSE users must attend to several workshops, such as: joinery workshop, sartorial workshop, second hand store. The participants learn abilities related to work.

### Target groups

homeless people, addicted people, unemployed people

### Objective of the school

The objective of our school is to help marginalized people to rebuild their lives.

### A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

Association „Beeing Together“ runs several places acting in the field of helping marginalized groups: homeless, addicted, young mothers, women raising their children alone, children and youth, unemployed, victims of violence. Those places create a system of different kind of aid: education, therapy, workshops, shelter, food, stimulation on the labour market.

The Social Education Center created an alternative system of support, which gathers people from the weakest groups - usually homeless people - giving them possibilities to rebuild their lives, upgrade vocational skills and find their way in the new socio-economic reality. This first community emerged in October 2001 in Cieszyn in vandalized and ruined productive rooms of „Olza“ factory. It gave a home for 20 marginalized individuals, who were living together. Now the three communities gather people regardless of age and sex who are undergoing dramatic traumas.

In order to create a wide system of support for the process of integration of excluded groups The Center of Social Education was set up in 2003. The Center of Social Education is assigned for persons marginalized and socially excluded.





## Foundation of Social Enterprise Development „By Razem“ The Social Education Center

Address .....	43-400 Cieszyn, ul. Wałowa 4, Poland
Telephone .....	+48 33 8514103
Fax: .....	+48 33 8514103
E-mail .....	fundacjabycrazemwp@wp.pl
Homepage .....	www.fundacjabycrazem.pl
Director .....	The Management Board of Foundation: Mariusz Andrukiewicz, chairman, Dariusz Boek and Wojciech Surzycki, vice-chairmans
Year of establishment.....	2007
Number of staff.....	30
Number of annual students (2008)	
persons who participated in full program	45
Number of daily students	
persons who participated in the program	552

### Professions

manager, project manager, fundraiser, psychologist, social worker, carpenter, sewer, driver, ironworker, receptionist, accountant, lawyer, teacher.

### Description of activities

Activity of the enterprise is based on five components:

- Workshops (carpenter's, blacksmith's, locksmith's, workshop of domestic detergents, kitchen, small restaurant, laundry)
- Social Cooperatives and small business units
- Incubator of Social Economy Subjects
- Education (training courses, workshops)
- Bank of „friendly“ businessmen

### Target groups

unemployed people (long-term unemployed, addicted to alcohol, former homeless)

### Objective of the school

#### – The Social Education Center

The main objectives are: creation of conditions allowing to organize of workshops stimulating the unemployed and people affected by social exclusion to employment and self-employment, stimulation of cooperation between three sectors (local government, third sector and business).

### A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

Some years ago, Cieszyn Municipality got a hectare of land with degraded factory halls from Polifarb. For a long period of time there was no idea about what to do with them. Finally, the land was given

in charge of Mutual Aid Association „By Razem“ in Cieszyn which runs a few places for the homeless and the addicts, lonely mothers, victims of violence in family, children, youth.

Foundation of Social Enterprise Development „By Razem“ was established in 2007 year by Mutual Aid Association „By Razem“ in Cieszyn. The ideas of foundation, in a large degree, stem from the experience of the Association; however, the scope of its activity is broadened to keeping social enterprise, supporting social cooperatives, social enterprises, companies predisposed also to social activity, associations, and other forms of social activities built upon the values of solidarity, mutuality, and cooperation.

### Aims of the Foundation

- Creating conditions to development of a human-being as an individual that constitutes spiritual, psychological, and intellectual whole, functioning in specific social conditions through: education, work, initiating activity in the labour market, support, mutual aid,
- Aid to people who are socially excluded, facing marginalization, the disfavored groups the unemployed, people who are ill and disabled, homeless, lonely, addicted, affected by poverty, refugees, and others who need a support,
- Integration of local environments around the effective solutions to social problems,
- Initiation and implementation of programs that serve the social development.

The concept of functioning of the enterprise – called The Social Education Center - was worked out by Mariusz Andrukiewicz, one of the founders of Mutual Aid Association, while translation into the language of the proposal was made by employees of Strategy and Development of Town Department UM in Cieszyn.

Municipal Authorities started preparations for submitting a motion to Integrated Operational Program of Regional Development to fund the investment. Finally, a decision has been made to grant the subsidy for realization of the task.

The investment has been funded by Cieszyn, by the government subsidy as part of Integrated Operational Program of Regional Development, and by European Fund of Regional Development also as part of Integrated Operational Program of Regional Development. The executor was Skid Company, while the supervisor was the Department of Municipal Council's Investments in Cieszyn. Building works started 23th of April 2007, and it inished in the middle of April 2008.

According to that concept, the enterprise functions as an educational – production institution. A wide range of workshops are included in it: carpenter's, locksmith's, recycling, bicycles repair, blacksmith's, printing, cuisine, and a professionally equipped laundry. All the workshops have two kinds of functions. First of all, they are to serve educational aims: people who come to the enterprise are provided with a wide program of education which will allow to develop completely the idea of an extensive aid to socially excluded groups. Participation in mutual aid groups, trainings which allows to teach the unemployed or those who have never worked what the work really is, responsibility, cooperation, vocational training courses, educational groups, and finally, real gainful employment – first of all, in the workshops of the enterprise, but also in so-called open labour market.

In order to set The Social Education Center project into action, cooperation with local businessmen was necessary. They have been invited into the project and as a matter of fact they play very important role in implementation of all projects aims. We call them „friendly“ entrepreneurs, because they are ready to set up new business activities on Waowa street and they are prepared to create new jobs for participants of the project – they can be employed after the period of training.

So The Social Education Centre has been functioning as a educational – production institution. There is a space for both activities - and one more: incubating of social economy subjects, which may find full factual and technical support and eventually locate their headquarters there.





## THE CZECH REPUBLIC



### Kofoed's Schols in The Czech Republic

Address .....	Hasická 550/50, 700 30
	Ostrava - Hrabvka
Telephone.....	00420 596 768 078
Fax .....	00420 596 639 536
E-mail .....	ks@kofoedovaskola.cz
web: .....	www.kofoedovaskola.cz/
Director.....	Petra Kluzova
Year of establishment.....	2002 - Ostrava
Number of staff .....	50
Number of annual students (2008).....	Ústí: 166
	Ostrava: 515 Bruntál: 189
	Most: 152 Tinec: 274
	Karviná: 155
Number of daily students .....	Approximately 30 – 50



## Kofoed's Schools in The Czech Republic

Main address..... Hasiská 550/50  
700 30 Ostrava - Hrabvka  
tel: ..... 00420 596 768 078  
fax ..... 00420 596 639 536  
e-mail..... ks@kofoedovaskola.cz  
web..... www.kofoedovaskola.cz

### Branches

#### Kofoeds school Bruntal

address..... Kavalcova 7, 792 01 Bruntál  
tel./fax..... 00420 554 254 654  
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web..... www.bruntal.kofoedovaskola.cz  
head of branch ..... Jan Mikovsk  
e-mail..... j.mikovsky@kofoedovaskola.cz

#### Kofoeds school Karviná

address..... V Aleji 435/12  
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web..... www.karvina.kofoedovaskola.cz  
head of branch ..... Jana Koníková  
e-mail..... j.konickova@kofoedovaskola.cz

#### Kofoeds school Most

address..... Budovatel 2987/108  
434 01 Most  
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head of branch ..... Ivo Kraus  
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#### Kofoeds school Ostrava

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700 30 Ostrava -Hrabvka  
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web..... www.ostrava.kofoedovaskola.cz  
head of branch ..... Vladimíra Salvetová  
e-mail..... v.salvetova@kofoedovaskola.cz

#### Kofoeds school Tinec

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tel./fax..... 00420 558 320 295  
e-mail..... trinec@kofoedovaskola.cz  
web..... www.trinec.kofoedovaskola.cz  
head of branch ..... Marcela Machková  
e-mail..... m.machkova@kofoedovaskola.cz

#### Kofoeds school Ústí nad Labem

address..... rámkova 3062/38  
400 01 Ústí nad Labem  
tel./fax..... 00420 475 205 337  
e-mail..... usti@kofoedovaskola.cz  
web..... www.usti.kofoedovaskola.cz  
head of branch ..... Radka Nepřaová  
e-mail..... r.neprasova@kofoedovaskola.cz

Director..... Petra Kluzova  
Year of establishment.....Ostrava, 2002  
Number of staff ..... 50  
Number of students 2008:  
annual students..... Ústí ..... 166  
Ostrava: ..... 515  
Bruntál ..... 189  
Most ..... 152  
Tinec: ..... 274  
Karviná ..... 155  
daily students ..... Approximately .....30 – 50

### What kind of professions

Economist, book keepers, Social workers, Workers in social services (lectors, job instructors)

### Description of activities

2008

#### Counselling

Group  
Individual

#### Social-education courses

##### Language

English  
Germany

##### PC

MS Word  
MS Excel  
Internet  
Power Point

##### Other

Typing  
Business correspondence  
Pottery  
Pedig  
Sawing  
Hairdressing  
Law  
Taxis

#### Activating programs

##### Creative activities

Creative workshop  
Pottery workshop

##### Other activities

Free using of PC  
Gardening workshop  
Sport

#### Working programs

Worskshops (wood)  
Cleaning  
Administrative  
Laundry  
Other  
Praxis in companies

## Target groups

Surplus labour (unemployed), parents during maternity leave, disabled benefits persons, some type of senior pensioners etc., generally people with disadvantaged approach to labour market, people in danger of social exclusion.

## Objective of the school

The basic aims are return to labour market, broadening of knowledge necessary for employment at labour market, development of general human abilities and skills necessary for a satisfactory subsistence of an individual in a society (communication, collaboration, mutual help), renewal of the awareness of one's own value and self-confidence, encouragement in the desire to learn and broaden one's abilities, to influence one's life and one's surrounding, building up the habit to achieve a demanded property through work, active and meaningful use of free time, establishing of new social relationships, opening perspectives for the future.

## A short description of the development since the year of establishment

Kofoed's School (civic society) in Czech Republic started in Ostrava on the 12th December 2002. Since that time five new branches were opened. In Karvina (18th November 2003), Tinec (20th January 2004), Bruntál (19th February 2004) and Ustí (19th February 2005) and Most (1st July 2007).

Kofoed's schools in Czech Republic offer four main programs for especially unemployed people: counselling, education courses, activating and working programs (like Laundry in Bruntal, Wardrobe in Tinec and other).

**In 2008** the headquarters was separated from the branches and it is directed from one place. But at the same time the branches have got much more competences and responsibility for their own functioning.

Also Kofoed's School started new activities. In 2007 the first Food Bank in Moravia-Silesian region was opened (in Ostrava). The social enterprising is developed like „Wood workshop – social enterprise in Ostrava“. For youth at risk Kofoed's School in Ostrava realises program named „The law for each day“. New internet café was opened in Ostrava.

Kofoed's schools are today a strong partners of municipalities and labour offices in cities where are situated.

**The year 2008** was for Kofoed's School also the year of overcoming the first bigger crisis when the school was more then half year without director, with financial problems and in front of necessary reaction on changes on the labour market and students needs. But it is worth to say that this crisis management also brought valuable experiences for organisation like Kofoed's School.



## Ostrava

Year of establishment:.....	12. December 2002
Number of staff:.....	9 full time workers 4 part-time workers 7 volunteers
Number of annual students (2008):.....	515
Number of daily students: .....	90
Professions of the staff:.....	Head leader of the branch office Assistant for studying questions Social worker Lector of social care Instructor of social care Assistant in woodwork Leader of educational department Leader of working department Leader of creative department

### Description of activities

We currently offer a compact complex of services such as social- educational, work-rehabilitation, counselling and resocialization activities:

**Social-educational** services include courses in English on different levels, computer courses on different levels, typing skills, business correspondence, driving (theoretical preparation), basics of ceramic, courses in woodcraft, hairstyling and others according to our possibilities.

**Work-rehabilitation** services include working program called Hour of Work = Hour of Entertainment. It means that students could get a reward depending on the current offer for an hour of work. Examples of work: repairs, cleaning, sewing, ceramic and joinery workshop. Examples of rewards: food-stuffs, meal tickets or own ceramic products.

**Counselling** services are addressed to the students which need help with their social problems. We provide social counseling and advising for employment seeking, legal advising and furthermore a meeting place (it means social work with group).

**Resocialization and activating** services include creative workshops and free entrance to the computer room (it means possibility to practice the new computer skills or look for a job on the internet).

### Target groups

Kofoed´s School can be attended by people without employment, who found themselves in adverse social situation. These people can be:

- Unemployed people registered as job applicants at employment bureau
- Disabled pensioners
- Parents on maternity leave
- Others (unemployed excluded by employment bureau, housewives, people taking care of a person dependent on the help of other person and others)

### Objective of the school

The mission of the organization is to help these people to discover, enlarge and use their own possibilities during solving their poor material situation, in which they are and which they want to change.

The aim of Kofoed´s School is to improve poor social situation of people without an employment. Specifically we attempt to develop these competences of life:

- a) Area of profession competences – we are striving to help them to gain or develop their specific knowledge and skills needed on the labor market (e.g. PC skills, sewing with sewing machine etc.)
- b) Area of social competences - we are striving to help them to learn such skills which will help them to join common way of life. (e.g. working habits, keeping the rules, being independent, realizing the relationships among people, respecting each person, knowing how to communicate and cooperate with others,

- knowing how to react on the criticism appropriately, etc.)
- c) Area of personal competences – we are striving to help them to develop such skills which strengthen their personality (e.g. develop their motivation, find the meaning of life, open their hope for future, renew their self-confidence, advance their creativity, cope with stress, accept and express emotions, encourage the willingness to learn and enlarge their possibilities, have an influence on their own life and their surrounding, etc.)

## A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

The Kofoed's School in Ostrava was established in the end of the year 2002 as one of the centers of Silesian Diacony. The first of all important political and public deputies of Moravian-Silesian Region have visited Danish Kofoed's School and after that was decided to realize this project in Ostrava (as a pilot project) with intention to spread it into other towns and regions, where is the highest rate of unemployment. This project was successful and since the time we have established branch offices in the next four cities in Czech Republic. In the year 2003 it was decided that the Kofoed's School will exist as an independent civil association, not as a part of Silesian Diacony.

Kofoed's School went through huge progress. Demands for the activities due to high unemployment in Ostrava have increased, so we have continually opened more and more activities. Therefore we had to move in the mid of the year 2005 to the bigger building, because the capacity of actual one was insufficient. Personal staff also grew very much.

In the beginning there were only two employees and some few of volunteers and now we have overall 9 fulltime workers in Ostrava school and 4 half-time workers and 7 volunteers. In 2008 the headquarters and the school itself were divided into two separate parts. In 2009 Kofoed School in Ostrava realizes a new project which supports families with children

## Karviná

Year of establishment.....	2003
Number of staff.....	5 professionals
.....	4 volunteers
Professions of the staffs .....	1 manager
.....	1 social worker
.....	3 lectors
Number of annual students: .....	115
Number of daily students: .....	
(according to actual time-table).....	aprox . 25

### Descriptions of activities

- Social counselling (individual and group counselling - leading of social worker)
- Working programs. Hour of work is Hour of entertainment - students get material reward (food, clothes, dry goods, ration book) for work which they make for Kofoed's School. Working trainee-ship - this activity enable clients to carry out a three-month trainee-ship in various organizations.
- Activation services (free access to computers and the internet, physical activities, creative workshops)
- Educational courses (computer courses, courses of English and German language, Basics of accounting, Psychology, Theoretical course of driving school, Labour Law and so on)

### Target groups

Jobless people who are in bad social situation. It may be:

- Unemployed people which are registered at Labour Bureau
- People with disability pension
- Parents on parental leave
- other people (for example people taking care of another person, housewives, people eliminated from Bureau Labour and so on)

### Objectives of the School

- provide stable development of Kofoed's School in Karviná
- improve quality of our services, support of legislation of Czech Republic
- balancing educational and social work with students, bigger accent on social work with students
- establishing reputation of Kofoed's School and our branch
- establishing flexible offer of services which will relate to the needs of our clients

### Short description of the development since the year of establishment

**2003 – 2004** only computer and language courses, individual and group counselling, course of creative activity, cooperation with Labour Bureau and town of Karviná

**2005** moving into bigger and more suitable building, development other social-educational courses (for example Basic of Accounting) and open working activity named Hour of work is Hour of entertainment

**2006** development of creative rooms (knitting, work with a wood), development next social-educational courses (Music course, course of Working law), and opening of working activity named Working trainee-ship

**2007** stabilization of branch Karviná, cooperation with Probation and mediation service

**2008** stabilization of services according to real needs of clients, development group counselling

**2009** orientation on people who are endangered with social exclusion and people with cumulative problems

## Trinec

The year of establishment: ..... January 2004  
The number of the staff: ..... 5  
Profession of the staff: ..... chief of branch  
..... social worker  
..... 2 teachers  
..... job instructors  
..... of social care  
Number of annual students in 2008: ..... 274  
The number of daily students: ..... 30

## Description of activities

1. social counselling (individual or group) – help by solving problems connected with unemployment;
2. education programs – English courses, PC courses, creative courses etc.;
3. activating programs – free entrance creative courses focused on the work with pottery, wicker, paper, colours and other material or free entrance on PC;
4. working rehabilitation programs – working programs „hour of work = hour of fun“ in return for food, meal ticket or three months job shadowing in private company or organisation;
5. „Wardrobe“ – second hand textile

## Target groups

People without paid jobs, in adverse social situation

1. unemployed people registered at employment bureau
2. disabled pensioners
3. parents on maternity leave
4. others: housewives, people taking care of a person dependent on the help of other person and others

## Objectives of the school

- to ensure sustainability of existing service;
- to improve the quality and extend offered programs
- to participate in coordination of public service for Trinec city;
- to start sewing, weaving and washing as a part of Wardrobe;
- to develop cooperation with Trinec city and other organisations;
- to organise social activities for students in Kofoed school

### Short description of the development since the year of establishments

It is five year from the establishment of brunch Kofoed school in Trinec. During this time there are a row of changes and innovations. Firstly there was a moving into larger space, with increasing number of clients and also looking for new employees, enlarging offer of services etc. In 2006 as first from all brunches in Czech Republic we opened in co-operation with Trinec municipality Wardrobe. Our students sort the second hand textile within working program that is also offered for students in bad social situation free of charge. In 2007 the staff of our branch organised for students and their families and friends (and partner organisation) common meeting „Summer party – grill party“. Because of an interest we organised in 2008 the second meeting „Mexico“ that contained speech about Mexico. There played a Mexico music and it was eaten Mexico specialties. Organising of summer parties is so a traditional activity of Trinec brunch. 2006 and 2007 are in sign of stabilization, 2008 in sign of change, especially of personally. What will the year 2009 bring to us? We will fight for keeping the service that will be especially in time of financial crisis a contribution for many people threatened by social exclusion.





## Bruntal

Year of establishment.....	19.2. 2004
Number of staff.....	10 – 6 professionals, 4 volunteers
Professions of the staffs .....	head leader of local school social worker 2 lectors of social care 2 instructors of social care
Number of annual students .....	233/2007 89/2008
Number of daily students .....	Average 27

### Descriptions of activities

#### 1. Socio-educational courses:

1. PC courses
2. language courses (English, German, conversation in Polish)

#### 2. Workshops:

3. creative workshop
4. sewing workshop
5. do-it-yourself woodwork
6. garden

#### 3. Social counselling:

7. individual consultation

#### 4. Working program – „Hour of work = Hour of entertainment" (it means repairs, cleaning, work in the laundry, in the garden, work outside the School – brickwork, painting work, cutting of grass etc.)

#### 5. Free entrance to the computer room – it means training of PC skills, this activity is lead by volunteers, job terminal - free use of net connection for job web sites local and all around the world.

Social counselling - individual and group counselling for people in emergent social crisis;  
Social educational activities - their aim is support our students to achieve success on labour market, their personal development (abilities to progress), stimulation their self-believe and hope to the future, to wake and support their decision to study, generalize possibilities and influence own life and surrounding too. Work-rehabilitation activities – give chance to students actively and meaningfully spend their leisure time, support their individual potential and imagination, support their acquired knowledge, develop their creativity and also enable students to link to the new social relations and learn to cooperate

### Target groups

surplus labour (unemployed.), parents during maternity leave, disabled benefits persons, some type of senior pensioners etc. generally people with disadvantaged approach to labour market, people in danger of social exclusion.

### Objectives of the school

The basic aims are return to labour market, broadening of knowledge necessary for employment at labour market, development of general human abilities and skills necessary for a satisfactory subsistence of an individual in a society (communication, collaboration, mutual help), renewal of the awareness of one's own value and self-confidence, encouragement in the desire to learn and broaden one's abilities, to influence one's life and one's surrounding, building up the habit to achieve a demanded property through work, active and meaningful use of free time, establishing of new social relationships, opening perspectives for the future.

### Short description of the development since the year of establishments

Kofoed's School in Bruntal began to work on 19 February, 2004, with two employees. In this time were the most of the courses lead by volunteers. They also took part in the preparation of the space (painting, cleanup, construction work etc.). We provided courses of English and German language, PC courses, especially Basics of MS Word.

**In 2005** we took on the next three employees and we extended our services about the new one. We opened the creative workshops, fitness exercises, courses of typing with all ten fingers and the basics of psychology. It was started working program „Hour of work = hour of entertainment". It means that students can earn some rewards for an hour of work for Kofoed's School. From July to September some students also worked for extern firm called



Uniflex (cleaning work, plastic waist separation and maintenance). On the beginning of the 2006 we managed to involve the Roma population in the „Hour of Work = Hour of Entertainment“ program within the Partners Czech project.

**In 2006** newly we have build a greenhouse for vegetables growing during cooperation with students. Also newly we have completed equipment of do-it-yourself wood craft room. We also have renovated of laundry equipment ( a new wash machine ) this year was extended variety of PC courses, including for example Power Point, Excel for advanced users, PC graphic, Business correspondence etc. The same year we started cooperation with local bureau of Probation and Mediation Service ( PMS) In field of re-socialisation projects for young offenders, we provided a work, job and practise.

**In 2007** we opened a room serving like background for students – Talk Room. Students got a possibility spend here more time together between courses in ambient with coffee and tea (coffee and tea machine in room ), there is a place for a nice sitting with possibility of internet connection and mini library in the Talk room. There is also many actual materials and booklets about actual law conditions in social spheres and related topics.

**In 2008** we deepened co-operation with municipal office of our town Bruntál and cooperated in clearing up the town and streets and we also provided services of some facilities in propriety of town, of course with our student and clients.

**This year** we started preparing for new challenges and opportunities of social business, we try to re-organise and systematize registration and low necessities to be prepare for progress in this field of social work.



## Ústí nad Labem

Year of establishment.....	2005
Number of staff:.....	5 professionals 2 volunteers
Professions of the staffs: .....	chief of branch social worker lectors instructors
Number of annual students: .....	170
Number of daily students: .....	28

### Descriptions of activities

#### Social consulting

Basic social and job consulting: individual and group consulting of social problems, setting targets of students, finding ways to help with those targets; job consulting, for example writing CVs, preparation on selection procedure, finding of appropriate job

#### Educational courses

PC courses: We learn Course of Basic operating PC and MS Word; Internet; Excel; Grounding of Presentations with Power Point

Language courses: English (3 grounds), German (2 grounds)

Others: Business correspondence; All Ten Fingers writing; Wickered baskets; Ceramic course

#### Social activation programs

Creative workshops: each week students create some products with help of lector (art objects, ho-

liday decorations, hand-made wishes etc.); students have opportunity to buy those products home or to leave them in Kofoed's school for sell or presentation  
Do-it-yourself workshop: students make products from wood in our work-room, p.e. shelves, joints; they may repair some things for themselves and our instructor is there for learn and help

Free access to PC and internet: students have opportunity to use our computers for home work, looking for a job etc.

#### Work program

We offer to our students program „1 work-hour, 1 fun-hour“. Number of students participating in this activity is growing up each month. Students clean up our spaces, make simple products for Kofoed's school, participate on administrative or another work here.

We also offer trainee-ships in another organization, ether economical and accounting activities or PR activities (writing to newspapers, making pictures etc.)



## Target groups

Unemployed people in social crises

Percents from last year:

from unemployment bureau	55,5 %
maternity leave	20,5 %
disability pensioners	11,5 %
seniors	11 %
people in households	1 %
others	0,5 %

## Objectives of the school

In the next period we want to change individual work with students. We want to intensify connection between education and social work, to develop social consulting, to connect it with other activities.

Another priority of our jobs is starting with social enterprising – we are convinced it is a good chance for our students and financial resource for our organization.

## Short description of the development since the year of establishments

Since the year of establishment many changes of our work and services took place. These were mainly about profiling and registering of the Kofoed's School as a provider of social rehabilitation according to the law of social services. Another important modification was a qualitative change of our client situation. We also developed our services, arranged partnerships with other organizations and became a tool to activate clients who use the social assistance.

Then there is a period of stabilization in services providing, continuing of good cooperation and development of new partnerships. We do not have to struggle for our place on the social services market in this town and to prove that we are a social service anymore. More likely we will keep our feet and develop the current position.

The important part of our work will be stabilization and development of the team and support of employees' education to provide better services all the time.

## Most

Year of establishment:.....	2007
Number of staff:.....	professionals 4.5
volunteers: .....	2
Professions of the staff:.....	co-ordinator of branches manager social worker lector of social care instructor of social care
Number of annual students: .....	152
Number of daily students: .....	30

## Descriptions of activities

Social pedagogic courses (English, computers), activation program „Art workshop“ and work-rehabilitative program „One hour work = one hour entertainment“. From 2009 program Family.

## Target groups

Unemployed, mothers on maternity leave, people with handicap (able to work), parents with children.

## Objectives of the school

To help people to improve their bad social situation by themselves.

## Short description of the development since the year of establishments

We exist only 2 years, but constantly something up-grade in quality of our service.

The town of Most is quite a small and poor town (it has about 67 thousand inhabitants), but it has a rich history and tradition. But from the 70th years of the 19th century the huge development of the industrial undertaking on the town territory, especially coal mining, has began. It was the reason, why communist government of that time destroyed the whole town and built a new city, 30 years ago.

The majority of present inhabitants work in coal mines and chemical industry. Thanks to gradual decreasing of mining activity and employment opportunities, the large unemployment has come up.

The unemployment of the Most district is one of the highest in the republic. At this time it averages almost 15%. The problem dwells in a great number of unqualified workmen's and miner's hands, that are very hard to be used at the labour market. There also live a lot of single mothers, lots of families break up and people are caught in a bad situation and ask themselves: „Where do I come in? What shall I do?“

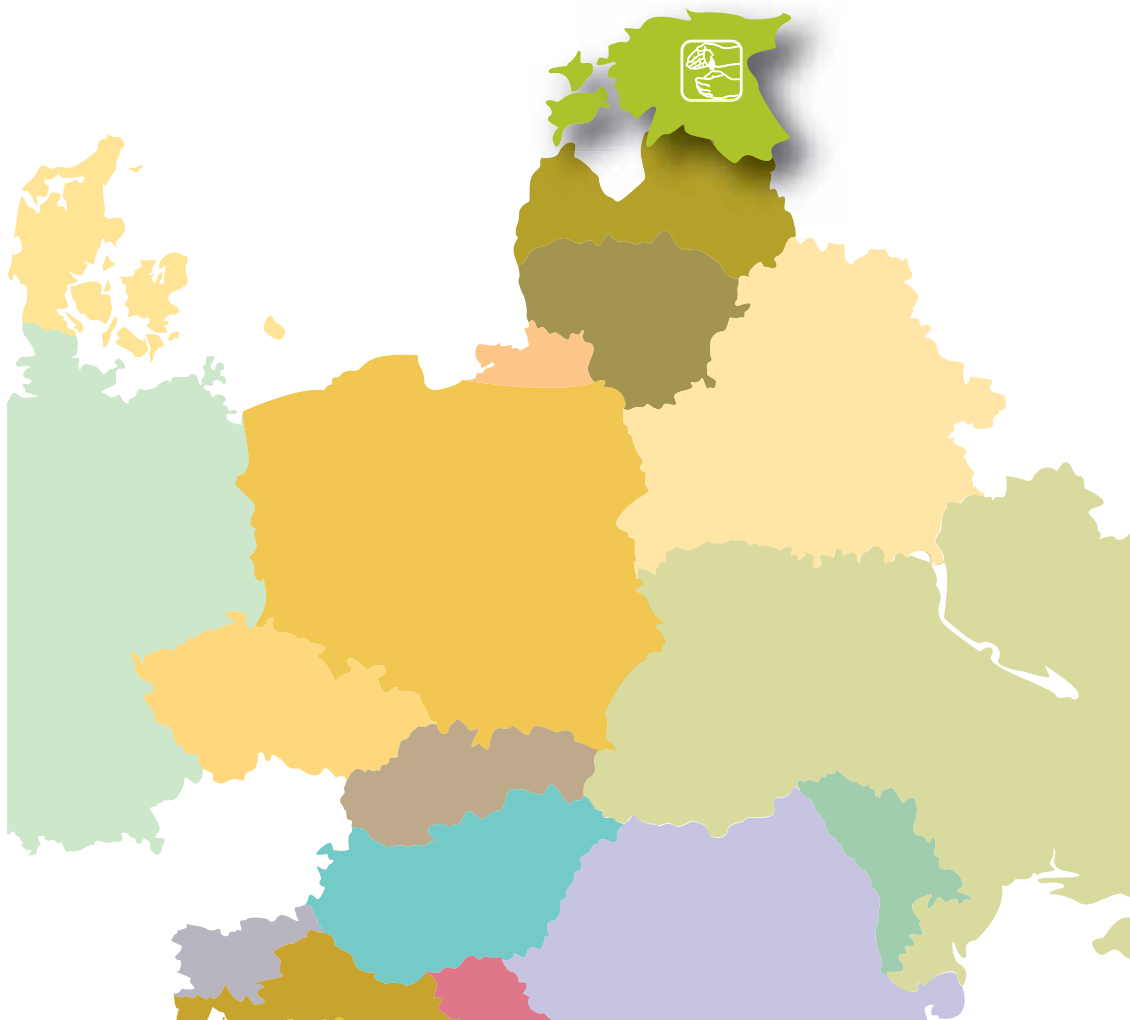
Just now, we are here for them. First of all we aim

at creating a community character of our school. The most important thing for us is that the people who come to us find a friendly staff and a pleasant atmosphere. Our branch is situated in the administrative building. It can simulate a common labour surrounding, which is so much motivating. We have a possibility to offer a snack here and the children can stay in our play-room in case their mothers attend a learning course, workshop activities or need counselling, which is so needed in our locality.

Some specialists can think that we are not a social service, but only an education institution. It is not a true. Who has visited us know that our main tendency is to increase self-confidence of our students and help them to change their life. We suppose that after our help, counselling, they will be able to find a new job alone, but it is not all. We help them to solve their financial problems, problems with their loans, mortgages, and housing problems, problems with children, husbands and the other relationships. Once a week a pastor of Brothers church comes to us and cures people if they want. We cooperate with the civil consulting room and with the other non-profit organisations too. We arrange not only social-pedagogic courses, but we have an activate program „Creative workshop“ and the work practical training program „The One Hour Work = The One Hour Entertainment“.

We are afraid, that we have not enough money to establish a social company in the town of Terezin which is about 30 km far from the town of Most. We have a lot of plans. Our goal is to empower workless people to work. For many of them is very demoting to stay at home and wait. The Kofoed School in Most is not only a place of aid. We are a community. The students mostly want to be together and they find new friends there too. We prepare a daily program for them and give them hopes to the future. We are very pleased if any student is able to find their place in the life and starts to fight against their difficult social situation.

We think that our job is worth doing. We really appreciate that we can work in Kofoed School.



## ESTONIA



### Tartu Koidu Centre

Address .....	Koidu st. 13
.....	Tartu, Estonia
Telephone .....	+372 7344 023
E-mail .....	koidukodu@hotmail.ee
Homepage .....	www.koidukeskus.ee
Director .....	Anne Schotter
Year of establishment .....	1989
Number of staff .....	18
Number of annual students (2008) .....	120 (average)
Number of daily students .....	30 (September – June)

All clients number is average 120, but 50 of them are immediately joined with studying-courses: 10 from courses for unemployed adults and 40 are children from four pleasure-groups. Others of our clients are separated between following fields of activities:

**Children home:** 4 people (10 – 18 years)

**2 children day-centres:** 36 people (7 – 15 years)

**Koidu open youth centre:** 30 people (13 – 26 years)

**Child-care:** 7 people (2 – 6 years)

### What kind of professions

Today adults have possibility to study timber-work, sewing and computer-using skills. For children we have 4 pleasure groups: timber-work, sewing, computer and fishing.

### Description of activities

Tartu Koidu Centre started with adults study-groups in 1999. In 2005 we opened a new studying-complex, which building was supported by EU. There are organised all courses. Timber-work group will learn about timber, processing machines, electricity and plotting. Studying time is 250 lessons or 3 months. Sewing group will learn about constructing, textiles and sewing machines. Studying time is 250 lessons or 3 months. Both groups must study also social skills and a job law, average 20 lessons.

For both groups are also computer-lessons. 40 lessons long computer-studying is for base knowledges, not for programming etc.

### Target groups

Children and young people (from 7 until 26 years old) from Tartu town. Unemployed adults from Tartu town and county. Some special courses had directed for disabled and homeless people.

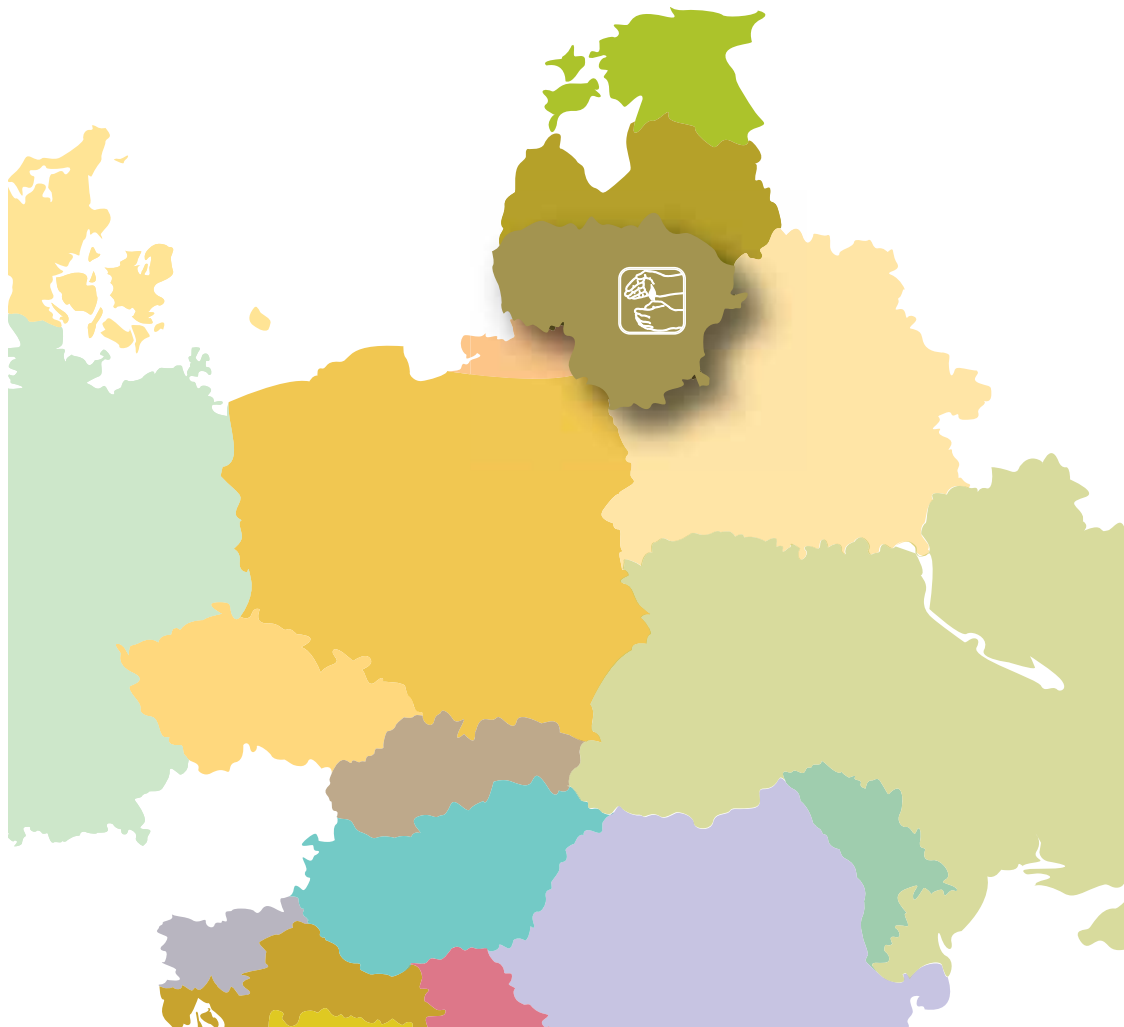
### Objective of the school

To study practical skills for job and better daily life.

In the future we will plan start studying of youth-workers. Tartu Koidu Centre has very much experiences about it and also a good staff for studying. During 2008 we organised first courses for youth-workers about project writing, free time organising and at last a course „The power of the word“. These people need and wish different course, but necessary course are often too expensive and organised only in Tallinn.

### Short description of the development since the year of establishments

Tartu Koidu Centre started 1989 under the name Tartu Christian Home (since 2006). The first function was being a shelter for young people, who liberated from the prison. In 1996 it reorganised to children home. In 1998 was started first pleasure-groups, supported by Kofoed's Skole. Using support from Netherlands was built a new house for timber-work. In 1997 was opened 2 day-centres for children. In 1999 were organised first courses for adults about timber-work. In 2004 was established Koidu open youth centre. During 2005 was built a new house for sewing and computer classes and open youth centre. The building was supported by EU Regional Development Foundation. 2007 – After the violent demonstrations in Tallinn we looked for, how we can help Estonian society and minimize dangerous antagonism between different nations. We came to the conclusion, that since friendship is not a rational issue (as language courses) and it grows through hearts (common activities, hobbies) then we must find something, what will be interest both – Estonian and Russian boys. And this is fishing. And so, since May 2007 a fishing club started to work at our centre. 2008 – Last innovation was opening of child-care group (à la the kindergarten) at Koidu Centre. In Tartu there is a lack of day-care places for small children, so we decided to come and help our city.



## LITHUANIA



### Vilnius Kofoed's School

Address .....	Panerių str. 10 Vilnius, Lithuania
Telephone .....	+370 5 2395154
Fax .....	+370 5 2310532
E-mail .....	bliumenzoniene @yahoo.com
Director .....	Milda Bliumenzonienė
Year of establishment .....	2001
Number of staff .....	2
Number of annual students (2008) .....	200
Number of daily students .....	30

## What kind of professions

Social workers

## Descriptions of activities

Vilnius Kofoed's School works as social supervision center for the risk adult group persons.. The following social services are provided: the necessary material help; arranging students personal documents; services of personal hygiene; work therapy; training professions; providing related social, psychological and legal help; organizing students supervision.

## Objective of the school

The overall objective is to finally form and complete Pravieniskes Kofoed's School for the risk group persons, including mainly for prisoners, and on the basis of its activities to make a model according to which in the 2010-2011 years such schools would start being established in other parts of Lithuania.

## Target groups

Socially excluded risk group persons, mainly ex-prisoners.

## Short description of the development since the year of establishments

Since the year of establishment Vilnius Kofoed's School provides training, educations and counseling not least for ex-prisoners but also to other risk group persons: homeless, alcoholics and unemployed persons. It is the first and only institution of such kind in Lithuania. With the help of Copenhagen Kofoed's School and others support, the Vilnius School created the necessary material basis, facilities, equipment and other necessary means. The school established businesslike relations of practical activities with other state and non-governmental organizations. The certain corps of volunteers has been recruited to help to accomplish the functions of the school. In the beginning of 2009 another Kofoed's school in Lithuania, in Pravieniskes, launches its activities.







## ROMANIA



### Romanian Kofoed's School

Address .....	Calea Victoriei 48-50 sector 1, Bucharest
Telephone .....	+40 21 312 2670
E-mail .....	kofoedsschool@yahoo.com
Homepage .....	www.kofoeds.ro
Director .....	Maria Florea
Year of establishment.....	2008
Number of staff.....	3
Number of annual students (2008).....	–
Number of daily students .....	–



## What kind of professions

Director, social worker, psychologist

## Description of activities

Vocational courses: Kofoed's School Romania offers a number of qualification courses such as confectioners, typography, carpentry, foreman construction, monolithic structure in order to achieve success

Social counselling: The school provides as well consulting services, occupational and entrepreneurial counselling and support in order to obtain a job when the beneficiaries will succeed in doing it

## Target groups

The beneficiaries of the school consists of people that are long term unemployed, homeless, young people that leave shelters, persons who abandon schools, persons with disabilities, drug addicts who are in treatment or persons who take drugs or have drinking problems



## UKRAINE



### NGO Community of mutual aid Oselya

Address .....	I. Franko Street, 69, Lviv-Vynnyky city, Ukraine
Telephone .....	+38 0322 963303
E-mail .....	oselya@yahoo.com
Homepage .....	www.emaus-oselya.org
Director .....	Olesya Sanotska
Year of establishment .....	2001
Number of staff .....	7
Number of annual students (2008) .....	35
Number of daily students .....	20 oselya@yahoo.com

## What kind of professions

Executive director, vice director, accountant, workshop instructor, social worker, driver and psychologist

## Description of activities

- Community of 20 homeless people
- Study workshops on renovation furniture and other skills
- Functioning of charitable shop
- Kofoed's social centre running addiction therapy
- Solidarity actions with homeless (food distribution etc)
- Street magazine
- Different actions on the issue of solidarity and tolerance

## Target groups

Homeless, long-term unemployed, ex-prisoners, addicted and other socially excluded

## Objectives of the school

Social integration of socially excluded people, spreading the idea of solidarity, tolerance and mutual help

## A short description of the development since the year of establishment

In 2001 the first volunteers visited social organisations in Poland and implemented some solidarity actions. In 2003 with the support of Polish partners we bought a small house in the suburbs where first companions started to live. Since 2003 the number of companions increased from 5 to 20. The new big living part of the house was built near the old one, and the old was renovated. The new kinds of activities were implemented: Kofoed's social centre, street magazine „Prosto neba“. Oselya organised many cultural and social events – conference, exhibitions, ecological actions. We also had a movie and book on homelessness and social exclusion

## NGO Narodna Dopomoha (People's Aid)

Address .....	Gaiadra St. 9a 58029 Chernivtsi, Ukraine
Telephone .....	Tel/fax +380-372 – 585-156
E-mail .....	office@nardop.org.ua
Director .....	Lyudmila Aliyeva
Year of establishment	
School/Organisation .....	2009 / 1993
Number of staff.....	10
Number of annual students (2008).....	234
Number of daily students .....	10 – 20

### Description of activities

1. Centre for Re-socialization of Homeless People (59 beds): complex model of resocialization which includes the components of homeless people's support and reintegration and prevention of this negative occurrence in the city (since 2003).
2. Street social work: includes social patrolling and Meals on Wheels (since 1998).
3. Centre for Registration of Homeless People (since 2006) – registration, renewal of identity documents.
4. The programs for the homelessness prevention and attraction of the community's attention to this problem (public awareness events).

### Target groups

homeless people

### Objective of the school

Empowerment of marginalized people in Chernivtsi by non-formal education and self-help implemented through adaptation of the Kofoed's model into local context.

## Chernihiv Region Charity „Aratta“ Community Center

Address .....	37 Ostrovkogo str., 14017 Chernihiv, Ukraine
Telephone.....	380-462-678433
Fax .....	380-462-678433
E-mail .....	aratta_chernihiv@ukr.net
Homepage .....	www.aratta.iatp.org.ua
Director .....	Victoria Filatova
Year of establishment.....	1998
Number of staff.....	20 workers 30 volunteers
Number of annual students (2009 .....	About 300 children, youth and adults
Number of daily students .....	Up to 30 people during the week about 100 on week-end days

### What kind of professions

P operator, leader of the children clubs, a tailor – for adults

### Description of activities

Community Center for socially unprotected people:

- 17 different clubs for children, youth and adults
- psychological consultations
- legal consultations
- children matinees, family Festivals
- art therapy (Theater studio for handicapped youth)
- material help (humanitarian aid – more than 1 mln tons in total)
- scholarship for students
- ecological education and actions on environmental protection
- ecological summer camp
- sewing workshop
- foreign language workshop
- computer literacy workshop

### Target groups

Socially-unprotected people, children-orphans, handicapped, long term unemployed

### Objective of the school

- Creating of the conditions for development and self-realization of the members and people under care of the organization,
- social support of needy families,
- support of orphans and handicapped who live in families, orphanages, children homes,
- motherhood and childhood protection.

### A short description of the development since the year of establishment

Chernihiv Region Charity „Aratta“ has developed greatly during 10 years of activities. „Aratta“ started as a town's public organization and later expanded its work in the whole Chernihiv region and changed its status to a charity. Five years ago we opened three branches in the districts and now they built Community Centers in Shchors, Horodnya and Makoshino. The number of the volunteers in Chernihiv „Aratta“ grew from 12 to 67 people, 15 of them work every day, full time now. The amount of humanitarian aid we distribute among the needy families grew from 3 tons to almost 100 tons every year. „Aratta“ has got a minibus and a big bus to transport humanitarian aid and to take the children from socially-unprotected families on excursions, festivals and on holidays. The main task of „Aratta“ is to support people and families which got in crises situations, to give them material help and opportunities for self-development, to teach people with post-Soviet psychology to take responsibility and to be socially active.

## Ahalar

Address .....	Radgospna Str. 22 Radianska Sloboda 14000 Chernihiv, Ukraine
Telephone .....	380-462-677312
Fax .....	380-462-677312
E-Mail .....	yusovich@gmail.com tasava@gmail.com
Homepage .....	www.ahalar.org.ua
Director .....	Serhiy Trokhymenko
Year of establishment.....	2006
Number of staff.....	12
Number of annual students .....	Totally during 2006-2009, approximately, 350 people
Number of daily students .....	Up to 30-50 people daily

### What kind of professions

Sewing teacher, P operator, PC designer, English language teachers, furniture repairing teachers, business teachers, cooks, carpenters, masseur.

### Description of activities

sewing workshop  
own business workshop  
repairing and construction workshop  
foreign language workshop  
furniture repairing workshop  
computer design workshop  
internet café workshop  
computer literacy workshop  
massage workshop

which was organized by one of the school students. Second groups of students were enrolled in October, 2007 and March 2008. Totally 440 students were educated during the project period. The length of the educational program of each workshop was four months. During the project period, 10 community development initiatives and four charitable Actions were developed and implemented by workshop participants. Besides, four trainings for social workers and University students of social pedagogic faculty were conducted. Danish and Polish experts lectured at the trainings. Also two fellowships for the project staff (16 people) and Action partners were conducted in the Kofoed's School institutions in Denmark and Poland. Presently, 6 workshops continue the work.

### Target groups

long term unemployed

### Objective of the school

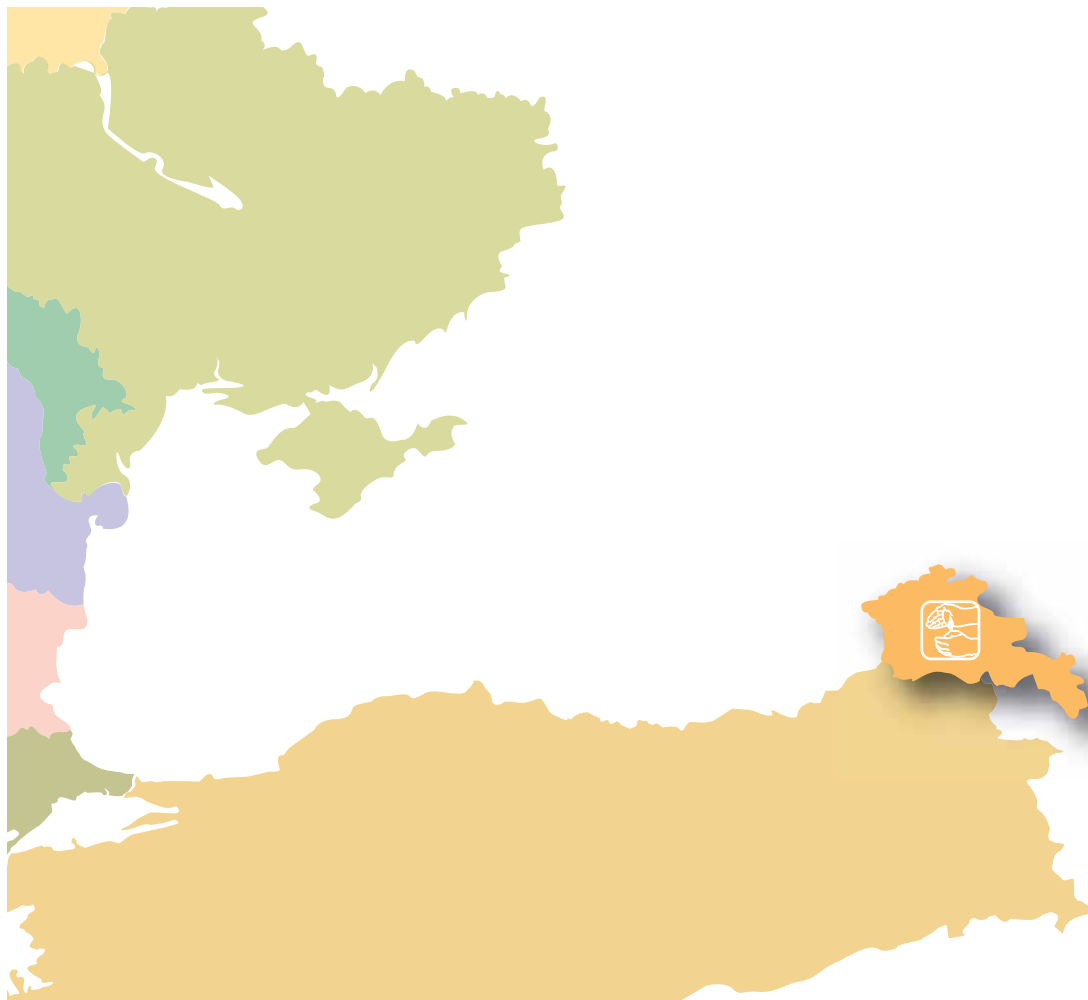
To create the environment for the development of long term unemployed and improvement of their life conditions.

### A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

Eight workshops – Internet Café workshop, Design workshop, Computer literacy workshop, Own business workshop, Foreign language workshop, Sewing workshop, Furniture workshop and Repairing and Construction - started their activities in June 1, 2007. Also eight workshops – Internet Café workshop, Design workshop, Computer literacy workshop, Own business workshop, Foreign language workshop, Sewing workshop, Furniture workshop and Repairing and Construction continued their activities in the second period of work. Later on, in March 2008 started one more workshop – massage,







## ARMENIA



### Hans Christian Kofoed Beneficent Foundation

Address .....	Vardashen 9, Building 70 Yerevan 375020 Republic of Armenia
Telephone .....	(+37410) 455865
E-mail .....	kofoedarmenia@yahoo.com
Homepage .....	–
Director.....	Shavarsh Khachatryan
Year of establishment.....	2000
Number of staff.....	12 employees 4 volunteers
Number of annual students (2008).....	640 beneficiaries
Number of daily students .....	160

## What kind of professions

Computer operators  
Hairdressing  
Culinary Arts  
Welding  
Ceramics  
Leather Item Production  
Foreign languages /English/  
Nail treatment  
Visage treatment  
Wood Artistic decoration

## Description of activities

Social Work through education

Counselling

- Psycho-Social
- Legal
- Job
- Spiritual

## Target groups

„Kofoed“ Foundation beneficiaries are refugees, former prisoners, orphanage graduates, ethnic minorities, unemployed, disadvantaged people, low-income individuals, single mothers, homeless, those with socializing and integration difficulties, .

## Objective of the school

The objective of the „Kofoed“ Foundation is to address and combat social exclusion and poverty caused by economic and socio-political reforms in Armenia by introducing a socio-educational model, which combines basic help and humanitarian assistance with training, education and counseling along the principle of „help through self-help“. In particular, the goal is to establish a bottom-up project of social help, social rehabilitation and education for the most excluded people to assist these groups to gain social progress towards re-entering society.





## A short historical description of the development since the year of establishment

**Since 2003** „Kofoed“ Foundation has been implementing „Help through Self-Help“ project for marginalized groups of the society. Up to now 2870 beneficiaries have been qualified with corresponding qualifications, mainly in the sphere of service. The project is funded by Copenhagen „Kofoed“ School and is directed for people who are isolated from society.

**Since December 2008** with the help of Central Employment Agency „Vocational training courses for unemployed“ project „Kofoed“ Foundation has organized the project „Wood artisic decoration courses“ for unemployed to integrate them to the society.

**April 2006** – July 2006: On voluntary basis Kofoed Foundation organized free Armenian Language courses for Iraqi refugees registered in Armenian Red Cross. Seeing how these refugees at their late fifties attended the course and learned the Armenian alphabet like a seven year old child proved that people who had lost their homes from now on connected all their hopes and dreams for the future with their new place of residence.

**October 2005** – December 2005: Within Central Employment Agency „Vocational training courses for the unemployed“ project „Kofoed“ Foundation organized „Ceramics“ courses for the unemployed registered in Yerevan Employment Agencies. The project was a valuable asset to the marginalized groups who at that time were out of reach of the new society, and for whom the time was not only new, but worse than it had been before.

**August, 2005** – October, 2005: Within Central Employment Agency „Vocational training courses for unemployed“ project „Kofoed“ Foundation organized „Leather item production“ and „Confectionary“ vocational courses for the unemployed registered in Yerevan Employment Agencies. By disseminating the project „Kofoed“ Foundation and „Central employment Agency“ wanted to make difference to unemployed in general by assisting them to overcome difficult life situations and to be an asset to the society.

**On May 20 – 21, 2005**, „Hans Christian Kofoed“ Beneficent Foundation held a conference on „Active Social Policy. Right's Protection and Help to Socially Excluded in Armenia“. The Conference was attended by 50 participants: Copenhagen „Kofoed“ School and Czech Republic „Kofoed“ School social

experts, various local NGOs, the Ministry of Labor and Social Issues, as well as representatives from churches and orphanages. The main goal of the conference was to discuss the situation and find solutions to the problem of social exclusion in Armenia.

**In 2004**, Kofoed Foundation held a seminar for Yerevan based employment agencies. The seminar touched a number of topics referring the unemployed and socially excluded, such as „New Market economy“, „The effects of transition“, „The impact of self governing bodies on local communities“. The seminar was effective and helpful in a way that employment agencies started cooperating hand in hand. They elaborated a common model, which would enable marginalized groups to share in better living standards and job opportunities.

**December, 2004** – Within the project „From Help to Self-Help“ „Kofoed“ Foundation organized vocational training courses for „Migration and Refugee Committee“ beneficiaries. During the project non Yerevan resident beneficiaries stayed at the newly renovated hostel of the „Kofoed“ Foundation. The project was urgent, since in Armenia refugees still experience serious problems with integration into the new social environment.

**In 2003** within the project „From Help to Self-Help“ in cooperation with „Armenia Democratic Forum“ NGO, „Kofoed“ Foundation initiated a new project for the orphanage children included in the „State support to RA children custody Organizations“ program. The beneficiaries attended free vocational courses of auto mechanics, hairdresser and cooking. The project came to be rather effective as the orphanage beneficiaries had a good opportunity to attend free vocational courses which today enjoy great popularity in Armenian job market.

**In 2003** in co-operation with the NGO „National League For Democratic Reforms“, „Kofoed“ Foundation implemented „Social Rehabilitation Centre For Former Prisoners“ project, the main goal of which was to increase the integration of former prisoners into the society, contribute to creation of safe and friendly environment, to develop full potential of former prisoners, and to realize their capacities. This project was a noble mission aiming at moral-psychological support of former prisoners and the ultimate goal of „Kofoed“ Foundation was to help such persons to regain their self-confidence so that they may overcome their problems on their own.





**S**ince the 1990's Kofoed's School has had a rising number of foreign contacts. Today there are Kofoed's Schools or Kofoed's School activities in Poland, The Czech Republic, Estonia, Lithuania, Romania, Ukraine and Armenia.

The schools are not copies of Kofoed's School in Copenhagen, but they have the same aim. That is to help people to get started again when they have been left behind by the development and are in need of new qualifications in order to find work or a better and fuller life under new circumstance.

– Ole Meldgaard