



ANNUAL REPORT | 2022



Anniversary

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DEAR FRIENDS!

The interesting thing is that it's very hard to pick out one story of all that has happened to us in these 15 years. And they did not just happen — we lived them through. All of us together — adults, children, those who were helped and those who helped and, to be honest, today it is hard to say who helped whom in the end.

Charity is not an easy matter. Nobody comes here unprepared — sometimes the level of involvement is so high that you can forget yourself, your surroundings, your worries, and even your own joy. Charity does not

tolerate the weak, doesn't sympathize the strong, doesn't credit the trust and certainly doesn't accept deceit of any form.

The charity field in Kazakhstan developed in parallel with various charity foundations, including the «Dara» Foundation. We aimed to improve the world — we learned, grew up, made mistakes, gave up, argued, rejoiced, and sometimes were over the moon. But most importantly, we always believed we were doing the right thing! At that time there were no training courses or special institutes for managers of non-profit organizations — we rushed to grab any helpful information we could find and tried to adopt successful practices of different countries as we could. We tried to encourage our local benefactors, who always supported us. We gathered, created projects together, analyzed cases, and walked together to help — sometimes, we lost, and sometimes we won. At the end of the day, we celebrated our victories together and were happy as kids!

There were more victories than losses! Charity has become one of the most notable, interesting, multi-faceted topics in Kazakhstan and, most importantly, it has attracted many people. We had to go through the social awareness development stage relatively quickly and learned everything as soon as possible. That is why our projects captured both theory and practice, and it may seem from the outside that many of our initiatives were more like an experiment.

We were the pioneers in many aspects — the first Psycho-pedagogical service centers in cities, the first university student from an orphanage, the first class for visually impaired children in the capital, and regular

first places on international competitions and contests for special children! And finally, the first changes and amendments to the Family Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the adoption procedure initiated together with several other foundations.

The government has always been our principal strategic partner in implementing all our projects, and the opportunity to influence the formation of the legal framework is one of the significant benefits of this partnership.

Here at «Dara» Foundation, we have always believed that every child deserves a school. But today we can confidently say that every school should be worthy of our beneficiaries — children with special educational needs. The birth of inclusive education was a long journey. It is a journey that we are still walking together with government authorities, teachers, and, most importantly, with parents. And we realized a simple truth — adults complicated everything too much, while children simply held each other's hands, turned wheelchairs, explained where to point the white canes, or sometimes picked up or just hugged someone who had a hard time. And they all ran forward together — to learn, play and dream! But the most important thing is that they were together!

Moreover, at «Dara» Foundation, we believe that every child deserves a happy life and if they have met some «ignorant» adults in their young lives, one must reach out, encourage, accept, and love them. Then just move forward together — mentor and mentee, adult and child, the one with a shoulder to lean on and the one who just found hope.

Charity is not an easy matter, but it is the most beautiful thing that could have happened to me, to my family, who has seen all my small victories and losses over these 15 years, and to my friends who, over time, have become friends with the «Dara» Foundation too, and finally, to my team of like-minded people who are breaking stereotypes, pushing boundaries and constantly raising the bar.

Charity is only for dreamers, who both believe in and implement their dreams right here and right now. Thanks to the work of many domestic foundations, including the "Dara" Foundation, professional charity is gradually becoming a national idea in Kazakhstan; in other words, it is increasingly coming into our daily lives. And that is very cool!»

Sincerely yours,
Gulnar Dosayeva.
Founder of the Dara Charitable Foundation

You can hear this story in voice format
by scanning this QR code



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2022



JANUARY

We summed up the results of the New Year's fair 2021 and started making children's wishes come true

FEBRUARY

We started our Youtube channel for the 15th anniversary of Dara Foundation, which will be useful for many people

MARCH

We started cooperation on the launch of the Mentors project in Petropavlovsk

JULY

Raised 1,600,000 tenge on the Tooba platform for special developmental materials for visually impaired kids in kindergartens

AUGUST

Launched the project «Audio description: accessible environment in the museums of Kazakhstan» in the National Museum of Kazakhstan in Astana - it is the sixth city where visually impaired children and adults can touch the world of art

SEPTEMBER

Inclusive Education Resource Centers were opened in Karaganda, Lugovoye village, Zhambyl. Lugovoye, Zhambyl oblast, Sarykol, Kostanay oblast and Dossor, Atyrau oblast



APRIL

Celebrated the Day of the Mentor; held a presentation of the book «Mentors: Real Stories of Friendship with Children from Orphanages» in Almaty

MAY

We opened the Educational research laboratory for inclusive education on the basis of the Kazakh National Pedagogical University named after Abay in Almaty

JUNE

held a presentation of the project «Audiodescription: accessible environment in the museums of Kazakhstan» in 4 cities - Semey, Pavlodar, Karaganda and Atyrau

OCTOBER

Celebrated the 15th anniversary of Dara Foundation by opening the exhibition BIRGE ÖSKENDE / GROWING TOGETHER in Almaty

NOVEMBER

We finished audio descriptions of the children's performance «Thumbelina» for visually impaired children in Russian and Kazakh languages and had first rehearsals before the show in the Puppet Theater

DECEMBER

We started funDARAising.kz, a New Year's fair to help kids from orphanages achieve their dream of entering colleges and universities

15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DARA FOUNDATION

«A big heart is like an ocean,
it never freezes»

(Carl Ludwig Börne - German
publicist and writer).

In honor of the Foundation's anniversary,
the exhibition **BIRGE ÖSKENDE / GROWING
TOGETHER** was created

In the Periodicals Hall of the A. Kasteev State
Museum of Art, every visitor could come and see
the installation from October 14 to 23, as well as
take as a gift a seed and plant a seedling of the
future as a symbol of shared and common
values with the foundation. The exhibition was
accompanied by an audio guide for visually
impaired and blind visitors.

The main purpose of the installation is to draw
attention to charity in general and make it a
natural part of society. Also during the
exhibition a new project was presented – a non-
profit Foundation of intellectual volunteering
«DOS». Every Kazakhstani citizen will be able to
take part in its work. «DOS» gives the
opportunity to directly support those in need
and contribute to the awareness of society
<http://dos.community/>.



Zhaniya Sauranbayeva
 Digital - manager of the «DOS» project



«Seeing the inspired children is happiness! At one of the meetings with corporate mentors, Gulnara said in her thank you speech: "Thanks to people like you, we don't give ready-made fish to kids - we give them a fishing rod!"»

You know, the foundation not only makes the children happy but also the people who help it. During that meeting, friends of the fund warmly recalled stories related to the kids. It was evident that they care for each ward and they want to help children who found themselves in difficult life situations to find themselves.

Personally about myself, I can confidently say that it is impossible to leave or move away from the Dara Foundation projects. That's why, after working in another area for a while, I rejoined the team of the foundation to develop a new project "DOS", which develops the direction of intellectual philanthropy. This project has no limits and restrictions, where everyone can become a volunteer and give their time and skills!»

You can hear Jania's full story by scanning this QR.



More than

40 000 children

have received help from Dara Foundation in its fifteen years of operation across Kazakhstan

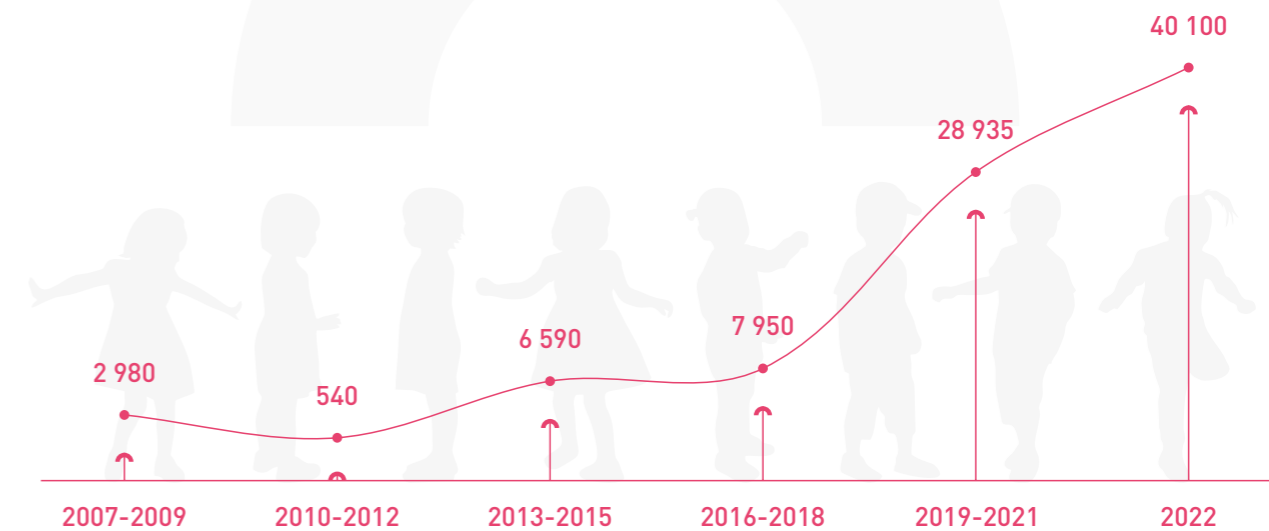
The mission of the Dara Foundation is to implement projects aimed at improving the living conditions, socialization, and developmental opportunities for orphans and children with special educational needs.

Our principles are:

- partnership
- openness
- competence
- development



We are committed to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



Years / Number of children

IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS OVER THE YEARS:

«Children's Cardiac Surgery» project	«Hospital clowns» project
«Hippotherapy» project	Peripheral Intravenous Central Venous Catheterization (PICC) Project in Kazakhstan
Football section	
«Daneker» project	Opening of the group for visually impaired kids in the kindergarten of Kokshetau city
«Smile Day» campaign	
«Talent Development» project: inclusive theater and art studio	Dance studio
«Mentors» project	«Pumper's drive» event
«ArtSportFest» event	«Different, but Equal» project
«Ulasu» project	«Discover the world» project
«Wish tree» event	«Coaching» project
«MuzTV Gravity» Avard	«Help to the children of Arys» campaign
«Different, but Equal» project: opening of the Resource Centers for Inclusive Education	«Give a Smile» project
Start up of inclusive playgrounds in Almaty and Kuryk, Mangistau region	«New Year Miracle» campaign
«Audiodescription for museums in Kazakhstan» project	«Discover the world» project: opening of a goalball club in Nur-Sultan and Aktau
Online charity auction «DaraBilim»	«Different, but Equal» project: From peer to peer, Joy workshop
«Mentors» project: Corporate mentorship, Educational project, Circle of kindness	Start of the online school of mentors
	Start up of inclusive playgrounds in Almaty region and Taraz city
	«Gymboree» project
	FunDARaising.kz New Year Fair

FOR 15 YEARS WE HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED BY:

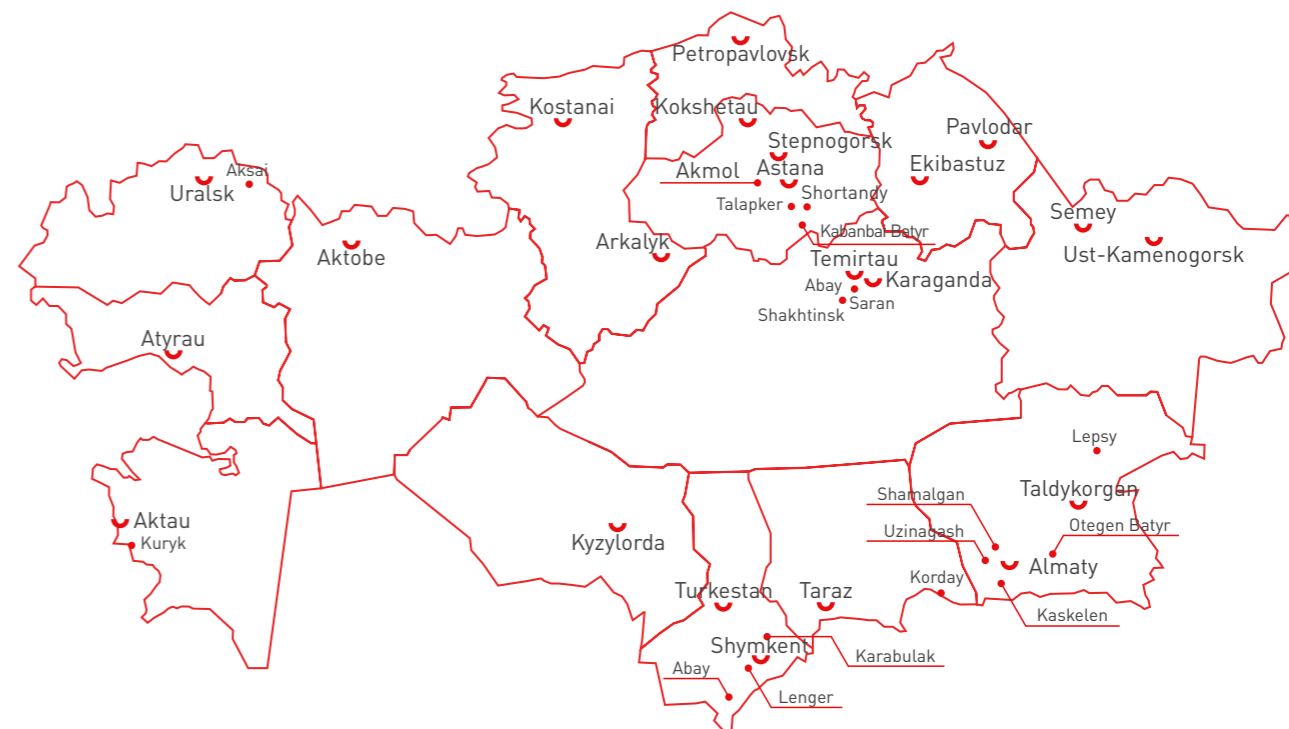
Central and local executive bodies in all regions of Kazakhstan

more than **700** major donors - friends of the Fund

more than **300** legal entities - national companies and partners from different fields

more than **140** state and public organizations are our beneficiaries

GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF OUR PROJECTS



BEHIND THE SCENES

To celebrate the 15th anniversary of the «Dara» Foundation, BIRGE ÖSKENDE / GROWING TOGETHER presents the unique and personal stories of the team and friends of the foundation in audio format. Here the reader can hear exciting and inspiring stories of the foundation's formation, the successes of the children, and how the projects and people themselves have grown and changed as part of a great cause. All the stories can be heard by scanning this QR code and can also be read on the pages of the report

Zhanna Rakhmetullina
Financial Director of «Dara» Foundation

«In 2009 I was one of the volunteers of «Dara» Foundation in Astana. At that time the main beneficiary of the Fund was the National Scientific Center of Surgery named after A.N. Syzganov in Almaty. The Fund has bought equipment for the neonatal department of the Center, besides we took the babies for surgeries in foreign countries, and foreign experts came to us to operate on our babies within the walls of the clinic.

According to statistics, at the beginning of 2009, in our country about 6000 children were born with a diagnosis – congenital heart defect. All of them had to be operated on immediately. The trouble was that surgery was available only for those children who reached 12 kilograms or more, but as a rule, this weight is reached by a child only in 1 year of life. According to the same statistics, only 10-15% of all children survived to age 1.

In order to give unique chances for low-weight babies to be operated on in their native walls, it was decided to send a team of our Kazakhstani doctors to the Bergamo Cardiology Center (Italy). Urgently the documents of five doctors were sent to Astana, and when I printed the envelopes it became clear that the file had not enough documents, the format of photos did not meet the requirements of the embassy and there was not much time left! There was no appointment at that

time, so I stood in a huge line, and when I got to the operator, I asked for a direct meeting with the consul. I prepared to explain the difficult situation, but we didn't have a long conversation.

We had a very short conversation. After getting to the bottom of the matter, in my presence, he stamped the long-term visa for all of our doctors. Knowing how scrupulous European diplomatic missions are about issuing visas and how long it usually takes to get approval, I was amazed and eternally grateful for such heartfelt help, and especially for the fact that, speaking different languages, we still understood each other in a language of care and love for a very small and very precious human life!

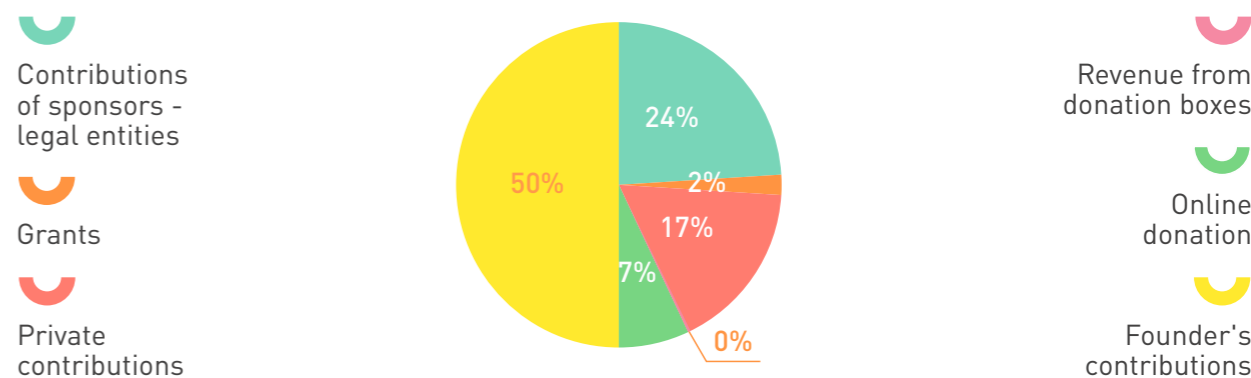
Even though many years have passed, I still remember this act of human generosity with warmth and gratitude!» - To hear one more story about the act of human mercy, which we do not get tired of watching for all 15 years of work of our fund, in the voice format you can, having scanned the QR-code.



CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2022

«Kindness, thy name is man!»
(Lautréamont, French poet).

BALANCE AT THE END OF 2021*		41 505 626	
Revenues	KZT	Expenses	KZT
Contributions of sponsors - legal entities	81 321 489	Expenses on projects	130 743 422
Grants	6 508 425	Expenses for maintenance of offices	5 747 649
Private contributions	55 975 000	Salary fund	118 200 435
Revenue from donation boxes	315 600	Financial services (bank commission)	256 951
Online donation	24 465 549	Other	7 670 226
Founder's contributions	166 063 334	Marketing expenses	32 731 436
Total	334 649 397	Total	295 350 119
BALANCE AT THE END OF 2022		39 299 278	
BALANCE, INCLUDING BALANCE AT THE END OF 2021		80 804 904	



*Positive balance includes advance payments from legal entities and individuals, received earlier for implementation of long-term projects

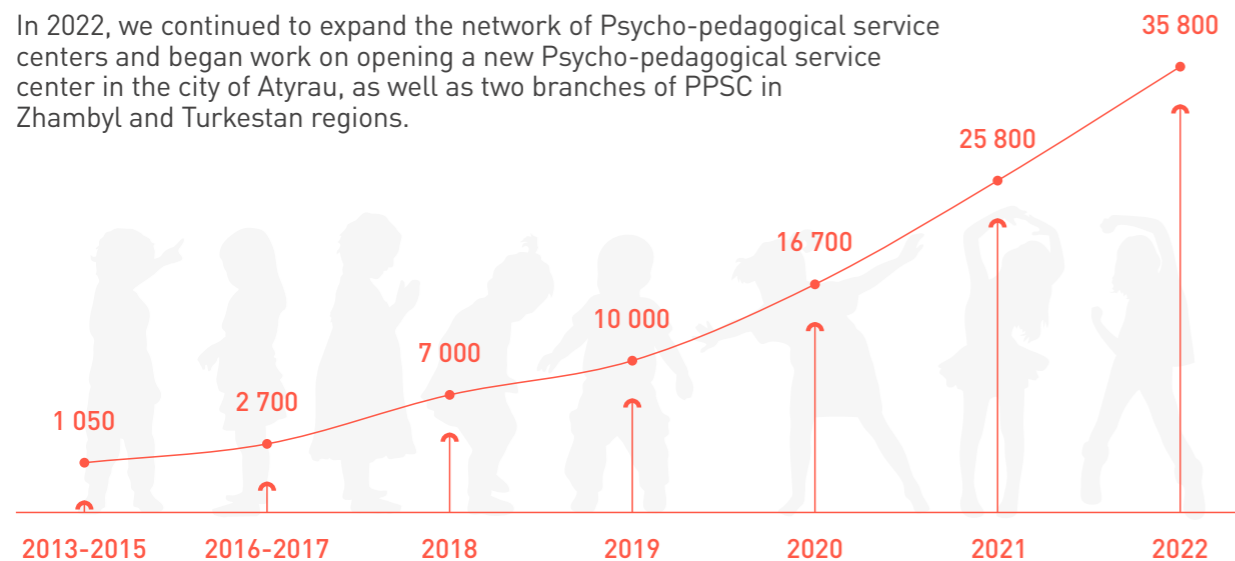
INCLUSION

«If our heart is full of love, everyone we meet will be our brother or sister. This is how children live - simply, naturally, and easily accepting of others»

(Dalai Lama XIV, spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhist followers, Nobel Peace Prize laureate).

more than
10 000 have received help from professionals at the 46 Psycho-pedagogical service centers in 2022
children

In 2022, we continued to expand the network of Psycho-pedagogical service centers and began work on opening a new Psycho-pedagogical service center in the city of Atyrau, as well as two branches of PPSC in Zhambyl and Turkestan regions.



Years/ Number of children with special educational needs who have received help from specialists in the network of psycho-pedagogical service centers since the start of the project



Maral Sheshembekova
Director of Projects and Programs at the Dara Foundation

«At meetings with educators, I often tell a favorite parable about changes in the education system. I think it's a cool parable!

...Once upon a time there were regular children and special children. Regular kids went to their regular schools, attended classes with regular teachers, and participated in regular school activities. Special children went to special schools, attended special classes in special halls, and participated in special school activities. And because everything they did was special, they had special teachers.

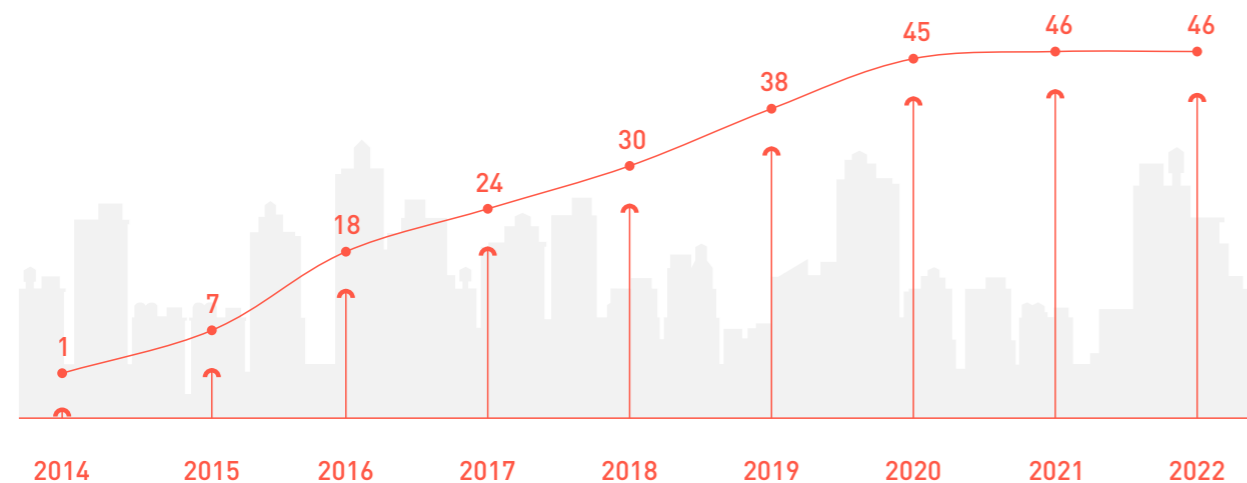
But then came the tendency to «allow» special children into regular classes if their work and behavior were normal or considered nearly normal.

A period of integration had begun, where children were still considered special, but they were allowed into regular classes that were not considered too difficult. This forced adults who worked with children to talk to each other about teaching methods, and sometimes to plan a lesson with all children in mind.

Then the golden age of inclusion had come. The special students went to schools close to home and were allowed to attend regular classes like regular kids, participated in regular school activities, and were taught by both regular and special teachers. All together as a team! As a result, all schools were one, and all activities were shared. Special kids and regular kids did everything together. Most importantly, they lost their labels; instead of being «special» or «regular», they were just CHILDREN.

But you may ask: What happened to the teachers! Well, regular teachers became more special, and special teachers became more regular. They learned from each other, and now they are all just teachers of CHILDREN WHO ATTEND THEIR SCHOOLS», - Maral shared such a wonderful parable that shows the real value of inclusion in education for children and professionals, told in simple terms the importance of what we have been doing for 15 years now. But you can hear the full version of the story behind the scenes by scanning this QR code, and learn interesting facts about how the Inclusion project began many years ago, and how cooperation between educators, parents and schools is becoming an essential promotion and development of inclusion in society.

Expansion of the network of Psycho-pedagogical service centers consulting across Kazakhstan, growth since the start of the project



Years / Number of PPSC



Saule Beksultanova
«Inclusion» project manager

«The day was coming to an end. My team and I had been driving around all day and came to the Korday District Correction Room to install another Gross simulator for children who have mobility difficulties. Everyone had already gone through the training, many children were tired, and when the time came for one more girl - you could see in her eyes that she was very much waiting for the moment when the trainer would start working with her. Her name was Arai. She watched the other children fearlessly and with interest the whole time and eagerly awaited her turn. She listened attentively to the trainer and did all the exercises, and during the task, she, suddenly, excitedly began to call her mother and loudly to the entire room said:

- Mom, are you watching? I can do it!

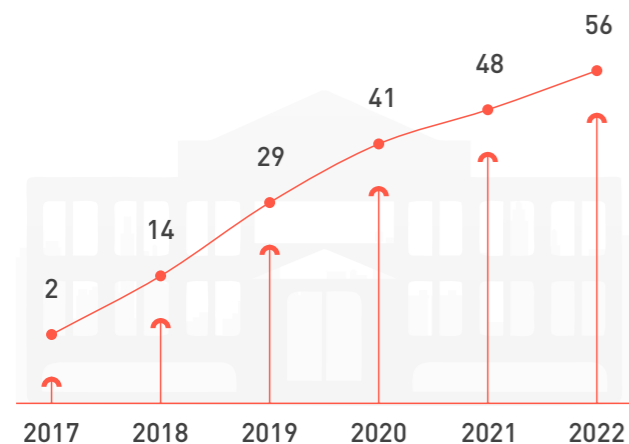
And at that moment all the fuss suddenly stopped for me, I exhaled and I realized clearly: in such short moments of life displays the value and result of the hard work of our fund», – Saule shared her amazing story that happened when the fund was installing the simulators of Gross in the Psycho-pedagogical service centers in Kazakhstan, and remained in her memory as one of the brightest moments of her work. You can hear Saule's full story by scanning this QR.



8 Resource centers for inclusive education opened in 2022:

- Lugovoye village, Zhambyl region
- Saryagash town and Temirlanovka village, Turkestan region
- Zhitikara town and Sarykol village, Kostanai region
- Dossor village and Makat village, Atyrau region
- city of Karaganda

Expansion of the network of Resource centers for inclusive education in Kazakhstan, growth since the start of the project



Years / Number of RCFIE

2396 children with special educational needs who received assistance from teachers in the Resource Centers for Inclusive Education since the start of the project



Bakhyt Amrina
Head of the Psycho-pedagogical service center №1 in Astana

«In 2010 I took part in the «School Partnerships» project organized by the UK Consulate in the Republic of Kazakhstan. When visiting schools I saw how children with disabilities learn together with their peers. As I am a qualified surdopedagogue it did not go unnoticed how children after cochlear implantation who are totally deaf can learn in regular classes and are no different from other children. I have seen and examined experience of inclusion in schools of England, and I was sure that our children can also learn equally with others», – Bakhyt Amrina told in her story about the way she and her colleagues passed in 10 years, important steps and unique experience and knowledge which were received to boldly state now that more than 70 children after cochlear implantation are studying in the secondary schools of Astana. And what is not less important in her opinion – the psycho-pedagogical service center is the first step to inclusive education for children with disabilities. You can hear the full story of Bakhyt Amrina by scanning this QR.

Educational research laboratory for inclusive education was opened at the Kazakh National Pedagogical University named after Abay in the city of Almaty in May

The laboratory will engage in research activities in the field of inclusive and special education; to attract teachers, students, undergraduates, and doctoral students to research work; to organize a dual education for students in the specialty «Special pedagogy»; to develop cooperation with institutions of general and special education.

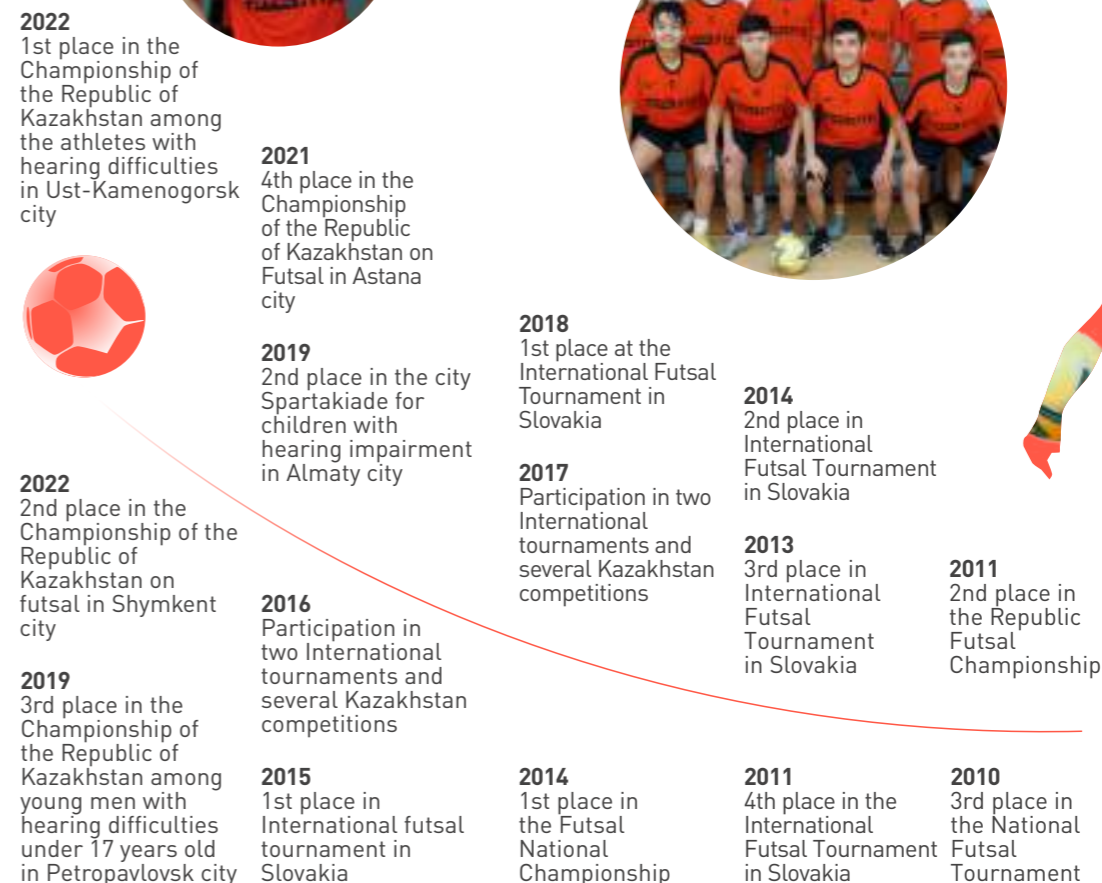


TALENT DEVELOPMENT: FOOTBALL AND DANCE SECTIONS

«The impossible is nothing»

(Mohamed Ali, American athlete, one of the most famous boxers in the history of world boxing).

For more than 14 years the Fund supports a dance section for children with profound speech impairments at boarding school №9 in Almaty. Under the direction of choreographer Marat Bekbergenov the senior group «9th Planet» and the junior group «Neposedy» which then have been renamed into «ZhanKids» are engaged. During this period of time 237 children took part in the project, and every year the children became winners of many international and republican competitions, with bright and challenging performances.



For more than 14 years, the Foundation has been supporting a soccer project. Teenagers from the boarding school №5 for children with hearing impairments in Almaty have been practicing there. Boys up to 17 years old are regularly engaged in soccer under the guidance of professional coach Asyl Ibrayimov. The team has experience in winning (gold, silver) in national and international competitions on futsal for children with hearing impairment. During this period, 317 children participated in the project and for many graduates soccer is not just a hobby, but a professional activity, which they associate with their future.

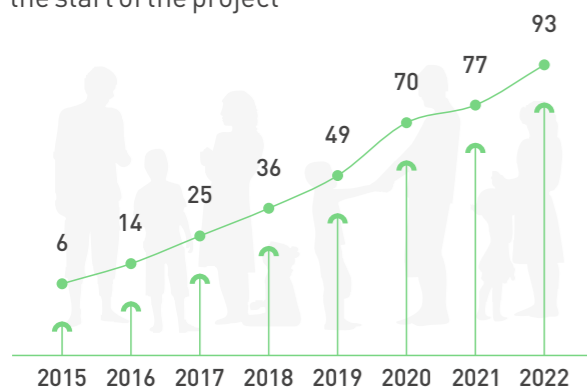
DISCOVER THE WORLD

«Love for people is the wings on which a human being rises»

(Maxim Gorky, Russian Soviet writer, publicist).

- **93** visually impaired children study in open specialized classes in the regions of Kazakhstan
- **19** special classes for visually impaired children operate in Astana, Aktobe, Aktau, Kostanai, and Ust-Kamenogorsk, and 1 group for visually impaired children operates in «Nur-Bala» kindergarten in Kokshetau

Number of visually impaired children participating in the «Discover the world» project, growth since the start of the project



Years / Number of children



Saule Sagimbayeva
Typhlopedagogue at school-gymnasium №10 of Astana



«...To train our Kazakhstani specialists and improve their skills to teach visually impaired children, a special training was held with invited experts, our colleagues - typhoon-pedagogues from Russia.

The Kazakhs have a saying "where there is good, there is no lack", and I think that precisely on the same principle Dara Charitable Foundation not only expands educational opportunities for children but also contributes to the strengthening of their health. Children do sports, sing, dance, do different activities, socialize, and most importantly, become more confident! As the saying goes, if you see a spring - clean up its source ...» – Saule Lyabivna, our longtime friend and partner of the Fund recalls how we opened our first class for visually impaired children at school-gymnasium №10 of Astana. She speaks warmly of her students, always noticing that visually impaired children are just as ordinary children, they just need a little help. You can hear the full story of Saule Lyabivovna by scanning this QR code.

A table tennis club - showdown for visually impaired children was opened at school gymnasium №. 10 of Astana and there are plans to expand the scale of the project in 5 more cities - Almaty, Kostanai, Aktobe, Ust-Kamenogorsk and Aktau.



Equipping «Aisulu» kindergarten in Karaganda with teaching aids, special games, and tactile books for children with visual impairment



To develop the professional competencies of teachers and educators at «Aisulu» kindergarten, the Foundation held a practical seminar on visual impairment pedagogy with the participation of specialists from Astana and Kokshetau, who have extensive experience working with visually impaired children.

Ainur Aymurzina
Head of «DOS» project



«Before the start of the school year we were very worried. The Department of Education of Astana did not give us a clear answer on the curriculum, and the school management was at a complete loss. I think there were a lot of questions before them: what conditions can we create for children? What to do if their health won't allow them to study? And how do we evaluate their progress, after all? However, a team of brave women came together for a reason – they got together to start this project! Although there were still many unresolved questions, on August 31 we gathered together with the teachers in the school and began to prepare desks, put materials and notebooks for Braille reading, which were ordered from Russia, on the tables and prepared to meet the children.

So, September 1st came. Children crossed the threshold of the school for the first time, leaving their parents in the schoolyard. Together with Insar, Abylai, Lisa, and Shyngys, four or five other children sat at their desks. It surprised me then that all the children were of different ages. While Insar was 7 years old, Shyngys was already 10. All the children were absolutely different – if Abylai had time to move from Kokshetau and receive support from the specialists of the Psycho-pedagogical service center, then there were children who lived in the capital and practically never left home», – Ainur has been working for «Dara» Foundation for 10 years, and in 2014 was a participant and witness of how the wonderful project «Discover the world» started. She shared with us the story of how we opened the first class for visually impaired children in school gymnasium №10 in Astana. What progress the children have made, how their lives have changed, and we could not have imagined that this would actually happen. You can hear the full story of Aynur by scanning this QR code.

AUDIODESCRIPTION: CREATING AN ACCESSIBLE ENVIRONMENT IN MUSEUMS IN KAZAKHSTAN

*«Diversity is when you are invited to a party.
Inclusion is when they call you to dance»*

*(Verna Myers is an American diversity consultant, author,
and vice president of integration strategy at Netflix).*



On June 1, «Dara» Foundation together with the museums in Semey, Karaganda, Pavlodar and Atyrau presented the results of the project «Discover the world: creating an accessible environment in the museums of Kazakhstan» to the friends, sponsors and the general public.

The aim of the project is to help visually impaired children and adults get acquainted with works of art by means of a special verbal description / audio description and tactile models.

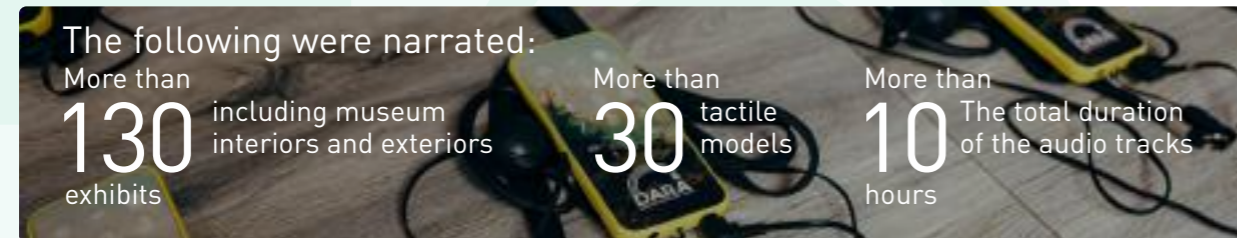
Audiodescription is one of the most important ways of transmitting information to a visually impaired person: it is a verbal description of an object or phenomenon, which helps them feel that they are not missing anything important in life. And with our project we want to show that it is necessary to practice audiodescription of films, cartoons, theater performances, sports events, and concerts, in other words, the audiodescription should become an obligatory element of our life.

Partner museums involved in the audio description project:

- East Kazakhstan Regional Nevzorov Museum of Fine Arts
- Karaganda Regional Museum of Fine Arts
- Pavlodar Regional Art Museum
- Museum of Fine and Applied Art in Atyrau named after Shaymardan Sariiev
- National Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan in Astana

The following were narrated:

More than 130 exhibits	including museum interiors and exteriors	More than 30 tactile models	More than 10 hours	The total duration of the audio tracks
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Kasiyet Omarova
Project Manager, «Dara» Foundation Accessibility Expert



«My name is Kasiyet Omarova. They say about me – the blind artist, because I have a complete loss of vision. Visual images in the memory and in the imagination remain in a person in any state. Loss of vision could not kill our mutual love for painting. So when the team of the Dara Foundation asked me

for advice on audio descriptions they were doing for paintings and exhibits at the Kasteev State Museum of Art, I agreed with great pleasure.

I am sure that this project helps visually impaired children for whom the world of fine arts was closed before, they now have the opportunity to come to a museum and feel what it is, listen to the description, learn tactile models, and understand in more detail, why are there museums in the world? To get answers and learn a lot about art and the history of a country, and that combinations of lines and colors, subjects and compositions can convey a wide variety of artists' thoughts and emotions», – Kasiyet shared how she came across the audiodescriptions project for museums and the experience was an amazing window into art for her, and that in fact, audiodescriptions are the norm in many countries in the world. For example, Facebook and Instagram briefly describe the pictures people post. Netflix has a special «audio description» button that non-sighted viewers can use when watching shows. You can hear Kasiyet's full story by scanning the QR.

The texts for the paintings and exhibits were prepared by professional audio descriptors and employees of the «Gala Global Group» Company, who were given special training. Blind accessibility experts were involved, museum employees were trained to work with visually impaired visitors as part of on-site trainings with employees of the «Dara» Foundation.

An audiodescription of the children's puppet show «Thumbelina» was made in Kazakh and Russian languages. The opening night of the performance is planned in the Puppet Theater of Astana Akimat in January 2023.

In partnership with the United Nations Development Program in Kazakhstan and the National Museum of the Republic of Kazakhstan has presented the results of their joint work at the round table on the introduction of audio and other elements to provide accessibility of cultural and sports facilities for visually impaired people. As a result of the project, a number of recommendations were developed for the central and local executive bodies, indicating the need for systematic implementation of audiodescription at the legislative level and the relevance of training specialists in audiodescription.



MENTORS

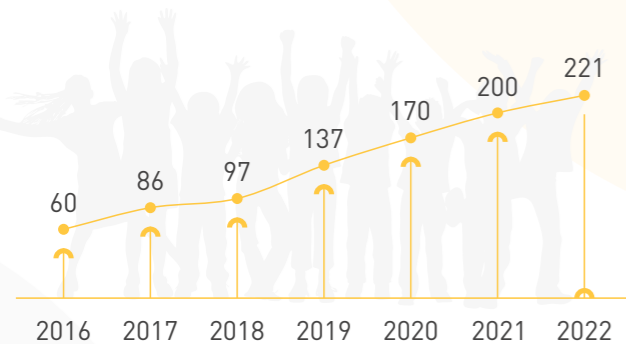
«It is hard to lead to good by moral teaching and easy by example»

(Seneca, Roman philosopher and statesman).

- **15** cities involved in the project «Mentors»
- **2** new cities – Taraz and Petropavlovsk joined the project in 2022



Number of teenagers who met their mentors since the launch of the project



Years / Number of pairs



Gulzhadyra Bekenova
Head of Psychological Service of the «Mentors» project



«To see the spark in children's eyes, to see how sincerely a child rejoices and gives warmth to a person's heart when I introduce a child to a mentor is a very exciting moment for me at my job. To choose a couple - a child and a mentor - takes a lot of careful, delicate work, and I understand that this is a huge responsibility - to influence two complete strangers so that they can communicate and be friends forever», – shared her innermost feelings Gulzhadyra. You can hear Gulzhadyra's full story by scanning this QR code.

8 Corporate mentors helped 146 children from orphanages to get training and courses to improve their professional skills for their future career



Due to the pandemic, over the past 2 years we could not celebrate our annual unifying holiday – The Mentor's Day, and the meeting this year was all the more warm and joyful. The holiday is celebrated on April 12, but according to tradition, we celebrate it in the summer. This year we held a Mentor's Day in the «Golden Pheasant» recreation area in Astana and in the «Ayusay» Visitor Center in Almaty, bringing together a large community of mentors with children from orphanages in a warm and friendly atmosphere.



In the cities of Almaty, Astana, and Karaganda, a presentation of the Book «Mentors: real stories of friendship with children from an orphanage» was held with the participation of friends, partners, and project participants.

The created collection of 3 parts collected unique, lively stories of the participants, and the vast experience of the team of specialists for more than 7 years of the project, which will be useful to everyone who wants to take part in this kind of social project and help children in difficult life situations. The reader can get useful recommendations and important

answers from the psychologists of the project on the topic of interaction with teenagers. The main message of the book for readers: mentors are just ordinary people and they do not have superpowers, except for one distinguishing feature - an open heart, ready to help those who really need it.

Friends and partners of the «Dara» Foundation, as well as students of the New Generation School in Almaty, took part in the dubbing of the audiobook. Professional announcers of «Kazakh radio» took part in voicing over of the kazakh version of the audiobook.



Beknazar Kaziev
Orphanage teenager mentor
Coordinator of the «Mentors» project since 2022



«I believe that adults have gained experience and are able to cope with the challenges of life, but children are still on their way to maturity. That is why I try to help teenagers who find themselves in difficult life situations. The problem of orphanhood cannot be solved in a day, a month or even a year. But right now you can make one child without a family a little happier by giving him or her your time, care and attention.

This is my fifth year as a participant in the Mentors Project, and my mentee is now almost a grown-up on his own. I call us #PartnersProjectMentors. When we met, I was 26 years old and Vitaly was only 13. Now I am 31 years old, and he is 18. During the time of our participation in the project, changes have happened in the lives of each of us, and there were positive changes in the environment around us.

From my personal experience, I can say that it is not helpful to impose, but observe and see what is interesting to the child. Children do not need pity, gifts, money. You don't have to see yourself as a magician. There are no magicians in the ordinary world, and if you want good for the person for whom you are now responsible - bring him up. Be strict, keep your word. All this does not prevent love but helps to raise a person. An independent adult», – Beknazar told of his amazing experience of participating in the project, and it was especially touching to hear that the project gives you something to do that a mentor would never do if he didn't have a younger friend. You can hear the full version of Beknazar's personal story by scanning this QR code.

FUNDARISING.KZ

«The great crises of our time require all of us to do more!»

(Bill Gates, an American entrepreneur, and philanthropist).

We raised 34,395,368 tenge at the fundraising.kz New Year's fair

The aim of the New Year campaign is to help children in orphanages to realize their dream - to go to universities and colleges. A child can choose the profession he or she wants, get socialized in society and provide for him or herself, and be an independent and self-sufficient person when he or she leaves the orphanage.

More than

70 teenagers participate in the "Educational Courses" project, in which the children sharpen their knowledge in various subjects and prepare themselves for entering higher education institutions and colleges

Thanks to the donations, the foundation will be able to plan long-term and systematic support for the children in their care as part of the Mentors program in 2023. The children will be able to properly prepare for the UNT entrance exams and fill the gaps in their knowledge in various subjects of the school curriculum.



Asel Shaydikeshova
Head of coordinating service of the Mentors project



«I very much remember the feelings of joy and pride when in 2020 a graduate from the orphanage entered the Kazakh National Research Technical University named after K.I. Satpayev for a grant majoring in Biology and Allied Sciences. I saw how he was studying hard for the UNT and, for two years, actively worked with a tutor in mathematics and chemistry, tried not to skip classes, and always did all his homework.

In September 2019, he did not get a minimum score on the practice tests, and the tutor tried to tighten his knowledge as quickly as possible. Then there was a pandemic and all the orphanages were closed for quarantine. Then we moved the classes to an online format, but many children stopped attending because of the poor internet at the orphanage. But this particular kid continued his education until the end. Classes for him were conducted by video call on WhatsApp, Skype, Zoom, in a word, on all platforms available at that time.

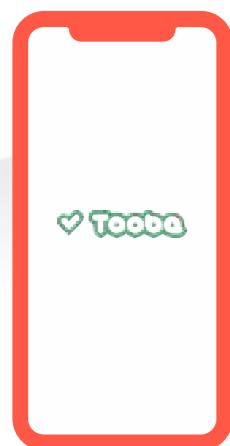
All these difficulties had not stopped the boy, and while the other children were strolling around the orphanage grounds, he continued to study hard for his exams. And then the day of the Unified National Test came. 84 points! I don't think I've ever been as excited about an entrance exam as I was about him! I was overwhelmed with pride and admiration for the tremendous result of our work. I am happy every time a teenager goes to college or university after studying with our tutors! When I see that children want to learn and enjoy attending classes and making progress in a particular subject. Education is very important for children from orphanages, and if they want to study, we have to help them do it!» – You can hear Asel's full story by scanning this QR code.

HOW TO HELP THE FOUNDATION?

«We have been given a great blessing, because we are allowed to do charity, otherwise we could not grow and develop»

(Swami Vivekananda, an eminent Indian yogi, philosopher, and social activist).

- At GlobalGiving, a crowdfunding platform that connects nonprofits with donors and volunteers. You can tell your friends about our involvement with **GlobalGiving** and the Mentors project for teens from orphanages that are featured on the platform. Systemic help is much more meaningful and useful than one-time actions, toys, and gigs for these children.
<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/gift-personal-mentors-to-100-orphans-in-kazakhstan/>



- In the mobile app **Tooba**, a crowdfunding platform for collecting donations for targeted and systemic assistance to non-profit organizations, we opened a collection for developmental materials for visually impaired children in kindergartens as part of the «Discover the world» project. Download the app, help, and give visually impaired children more opportunities for development and socialization!



- Through the banking app **Kaspi.kz**, **Jusan**, and **Tayyab** financial service by selecting our foundation in the «Charity» section. You can also easily help by scanning a QR code through Kaspi.kz app. Your donations will be used for the systematic help to teenagers in the orphanages of the «Mentors» project.

- At www.dara.kz in the section «I want to help» you can choose one of the directions of our foundation (programs «Inclusion» and «Mentors») and the payment option (one-time or regular help). We will always give feedback and a detailed report on the intended use of your donations in the annual report.



- Through the foundation's platform - www.fundraising.kz - your donations will be channeled to various project activities of the foundation within the framework of regular fundraising actions of the foundation.

MAP OF THE PROJECTS AND SPONSORS

For us, when choosing a partner for charitable projects, the issue of trust and transparency was crucial. We believe that the Dara Foundation meets these parameters by 200%, and after the first 35-page report we received back in 2015, we were convinced of this once again.

Also important to us was the long-term effect and clearly traceable cause-and-effect relationships, namely the fact that DACF provides its services on a systematic basis to a large number of special children, and this, for its part, bears real results through their full integration into the general educational process and society as a whole.

The work of the Foundation is based on the principles of correct and «clever» charity, when it is not a question of just putting a «check» in the right «box», but to provide long-term and effective support.

Rakhat Darmesh
Founder of «East Trade Solutions» LLP

The world that we want to have tomorrow starts with what we do today. That's why the development of inclusive education in Kazakhstan is an important part of our work. We believe that education should be accessible for every child and we are very glad to have productive cooperation in this area with the "Dara" Public Foundation.

Pavel Salikhov
Corporate Affairs Director, Mars Kazakhstan

We are honored to be involved in the good deeds of the «Dara» foundation and to have an opportunity to do the right thing as a human being. Every child deserves a miracle, and it is the duty of every adult to give them hope because there are no strangers to children. I would say that it is not only a social responsibility of business, it should find an echo in the heart of any sane person.

Dolores Pshembaeva
Chairman of the Board of Directors of JSC «Pavlodar River Port»

Our cooperation and friendship with the «Dara» Foundation are based on the desire of PwC Kazakhstan to be involved in solving social issues in the country. And for us, this is an important aspect of our business, first of all, in terms of social responsibility.

Dana Inkarbekova
PwC Managing Partner in Kazakhstan

PROJECTS

INCLUSION:

- Expansion of the network of Psycho-pedagogical service centers and Resource centers for inclusive education;
- Discover the world;
- Audiodescription: accessible environment in the museums of Kazakhstan;
- Dance studio and football section in Almaty

MENTORS:

- Individual mentoring;
- Corporate mentoring;
- Educational courses for residents of orphanages;

FUNDRAISING.KZ NEW YEAR'S FAIR

SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

«East Trade Solution» LLP, «Philip Morris Kazakhstan» LLP, «Azimut-Lux» LLP, «Chevron» Company, «Mars Kazakhstan» LLP, «PricewaterhouseCoopers» LLP (PWC), «Sheber Partners» LLP, «RTS LTD» LLP, «Kazakhyuvelir» JSC, «LVMH R&C Kazakhstan» LLP, PF «Almaty International Women's Club» (AIWC), «Urpak» LLP, Lyubov Pak, Aigul Ibrayimova, Aiman Andaspayeva, Arman Dunayev, Zinat Shayekina, Zhaniya Sauranbayeva, Sevil Amangeldiyeva, International crowdfunding platform Benevity Causes, National Scientific and Practical Center for the Development of Special and Inclusive Education (NSPCISE), Kazakh National Pedagogical University named after Abay, East Kazakhstan Regional Nevzorov Museum of Fine Arts, Karaganda Regional Museum of Fine Arts, Pavlodar Regional Museum of Art, Museum of Art and Decorative and Applied Arts named after Shaimardan Saryev in Atyrau, National Museum of Republic of the Kazakhstan in Astana, «Puppet Theater» of Astana City Akimat, Akimats and Education Departments of cities and regions

«Ernst & Young Kazakhstan» LLP, «Solnechnyi gorod» Charity Fund, «RTS Deco» LLP, «RTS LTD» LLP, «Change PR» LLP, «Alphamet» LLP, «Keleshek Social Charity Fund», funds raised as part of the Charity Reading Bookclub fundraising event, IE Mutasov V.S, Gulnar Dossaeva, Gauhar Abykayeva, Gulyaim Kunakbayeva, Oleg Novachuk, Kanatbek Safinov, Gulnara Shakirova, Zhanna Ospanova, Beibit Alibekov, «PricewaterhouseCoopers» LLP, «Klokster» LLP, First Aid Course Training Center «FirstAid. Kz», «OzgeArt» cinema club, «Jusan Singularity» and «iTeacher Academy» programming schools, «Joule27» restaurant, «Kazakhstan Temir Zholy» National Company, «Novotel Living Almaty Jetisu» hotel, «LikeAgency» Agency, Almaty Technological and Economic College, «Meloman Home Video» LLP, «September» marketplace, «Ayusay» Visit Center, «Tau» cafe, «Orchestra» store, Saule Amanzhol, «Magnum Cash&carry» LLP, Gulzhazira Zharkeshova, Omer Akbas, Akimats and Education Departments of cities and regions, donations through the website dara.kz, JSC «First Heartland Jusan», donations through the application Kaspi.kz

Employees of «Kazakhmys» Corporation, donations through the website fundraising.kz, funds collected in the «Wish tree» fundraising event at the G&G store chain and their partners