

# Vehicle for self-reliance workshops for care leavers



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# Who we are

- Started by tutors and psychologists with experience in working with youth from different backgrounds
- Since 2014 we've been addressing our activities to young people from institutional and foster care aged 16-24
- **We develop and run programs which support making a successful transition from institutional care to independent living**
- We are located in Warsaw but we run our programs all over the country (11 localizations)
- We have 6 project coordinators in Warsaw, Poland cooperating with 31 consultants in other cities

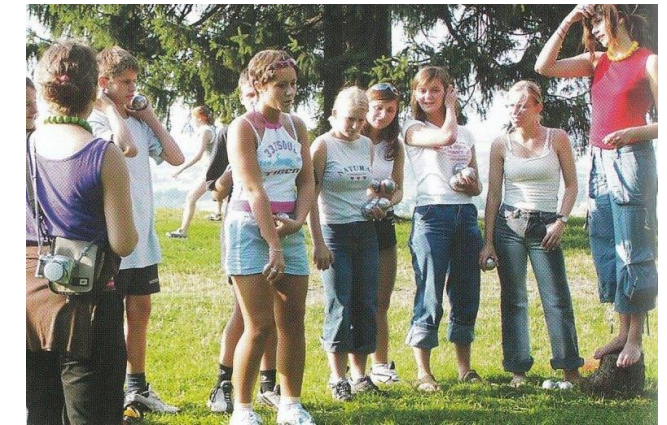
# Our approach

- We perceive self-reliance as the key competence which determines all the other life skills
- We developed and run our own practical programs dedicated to teenagers, helping them to function and find their constructive role in society after leaving their care institutions
- We focus on 5 areas:
  - vocational issues,
  - economy, law,
  - health education,
  - social and communication skills



# Who we work with

- We work with young people from alternative care (institutional and kinship care, foster families), threatened with social exclusion
- There are 74,840 children and youth in substitute care in Poland (data for 2017).
- **Approximately 17,000 people leave substitute care every year** (NIK report 2014)



# What Robinsons struggle with

- very low financial support from the state
- difficulties with accommodation
- lack of consistent law regarding self-reliance
- lack of relevant support from social workers due to overload of administrative duties
- very poor cooperation between different social care institutions – no clear roles
- low quality of vocational training courses and internships
- negative employment practices



# Our working methods

- Long term approach and programs; we focus on processes not on single act
- We build relations, bonds and friendship
- We create diversified and open environment outside of care institutions
- 'Vehicle of Self-reliance' as the main educational tool
- 'Robinsons build the community based on the common practices and mutually motivating effect of “copying the best”
- Activating and engaging local communities, business, authorities and youth professionals



# Vehicle for Self-Reliance

- Long-term program addressed to 'Robinsons' aged 16-24
- 'Robinsons' meet on a regular basis - every 2 weeks - and learn communication skills, practical knowledge such as personal finance, computers, entrepreneurship whilst getting emotional support at the same time
- Syllabus is always adjusted to the group's needs
- Vehicles operate in local environment and are managed by local consultants trained by the Foundation
- We work in mixed and diversified groups gathering youth from different institutions
- Networking and cooperation between young people from different cities



# 12 Vehicles for self-reliance – 200 Robinsonów

- Kraków
- Gdańsk
- Sieradz
- Żory k/Katowic
- Szczecin 1
- Szczecin 2
- Zawiercie
- Wrocław
- Łódź
- Warszawa
- Lębork – Regionalne Centrum Młodzieży
- Toruń – Fundacja ERBUD



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# Innovative programs

Safe Internship



Educational Games



FOOD *for* GOOD



Winter & Summer Workshops



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