

Activity Report of the Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania

2021

THIS REPORT CONTAINS:

Speech of the President of the Organisation	03	Assistance for the State in emergency situations	22
Vision, mission, motto	04	Spirituality of the Maltesers	25
Statistics on the Maltesers' activity	05	Social entrepreneurship	26
Assistance for elderly people	06	1.2% PIT support	29
Assistance for children and young people	13	Financial review	30
Assistance for people with disabilities	16	Sponsors	31
Volunteering	17	Contacts	33
Young Maltesers	18		
30 th anniversary of the Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania	19		



Bronius Einars,President of the Organisation

"

2021 for the Maltesers was the jubilee year - the Organisation celebrated its 30th anniversary. The Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania was officially registered in Lithuania on 29 October 1991. It was founded by bishops Juozas Tunaitis, Jonas Boruta, priest Vaclovas Aliulis and others with a view to having a

Catholic charity organisation in the country, which would be guided in its activity by the values of the Order of Malta, and would provide assistance for people of all races, religions and nations. The history of our organisation started at the same time as the restoration of our country's independence. The first year of the existence of the Organisation are remembered by its veterans as particularly difficult: the blockade of Lithuania, that was imposed by Moscow, was crippling the country's economy, corporate bankruptcies resulted in increasing unemployment rate in the country, there was a lack of the simplest household and medical supplies. But the Maltesers managed to do a lot already in the first year of the activity of the Order: 2 social canteens and a pharmacy were established, active assistance was provided for hospitals, retirement homes for the elderly and children's home, as well as to schools. Volunteers were teaming up in Lithuanian cities and towns on the basis of voluntary activity under the flag of the Order of Malta in order to help the state, that was undergoing its restoration and facing social and financial difficulties at the time.

During the first year of the existence of the Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania, 12 groups of the Maltesers, that united 116 members, were established. Today, we already can boast about the statistics of the 30 years of our activity, that speaks for itself: we have

2000 volunteers in 42 areas of the country, we feed and care for 2,800 elderly people, in 2021, the first care home Relief Organisation in Lithuania was opened, we have established 16 day care centres for children, we started providing a new escorting service for young people from care homes and families at social risk, and when we gave a ride to people with disabilities and the sick ones we travelled a distance that would be enough to engird Lithuania 98 times

The numbers were not the only thing that was growing during 30 years of the activity of the Organisation – special situations occurring in the country also dictated the necessity of taking new actions. In 2021, in addition to the challenges of the pandemic, participation in the vaccination processes, the Maltesers were also entrusted with providing assistance at a time the state was eliminating the consequences of the crisis of illegal migration across the Belarusian-Lithuanian border, and, at the end of the year, integration of the refugees from Iraq, Syria, and Afghanistan was started.

Below is the 2021 activity report of the Maltesers for more detailed familiarization with the situation of the Organisation.

Thank you to the Maltesers and sponsors for the wonderful work that we perform together. I believe in our community, in our mission and the values that we profess. I believe that we all together can do a lot of things. The Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania (hereinafter – the Maltesers) is a part of the Order of Malta, the oldest organisation, that has been carrying out charitable activity around the world for more than 950 years.



Vision of the Maltesers

A modern, open, respected, improving organisation, which unites people of good will, relies on voluntary principles and Catholic values, provides quality social services, and aims to reduce social exclusion in Lithuania.



Mission of the Maltesers

To provide assistance, in cooperation with social partners and supporters in Lithuania and abroad, for poor, disabled, lonely and other people at social risk, to promote the social maturity of society and volunteerism.



Motto of the Maltesers

The Order of Malta Relief Organisation in Lithuania follows the motto of the Order of Malta, that exists for over 950 years: "Protect the Faith and Serve to the Poor" (in Latin: *Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum*).

STATISTICS ON THE MALTESERS' ACTIVITY



1005

Adult volunteers

+ 263

newly registered volunteers who contributed to emergency management



700

Young Maltesers



42

groups of the Maltesers in the cities and towns



16

day care centres for children+ escorting servicefor young people



3

clubs for elderly people, which unite 60 persons



5

day care centres for elderly people, which are attended by 87 persons

FOOD SUPPORT FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

Caring for lonely and sick elderly people is the main area of the activity of the Maltesers.



The "Meals on Wheels" program, when hot food or packs of a lunch are delivered to the home of elderly people, was carried out in

30 areas.

During the program, the ready-made food (usually soup and bread) is delivered

2-3 times

a week, and in some areas daily.

A set of the most essential longer-lasting foodstuffs is delivered once a week.

The pack weights

8 kg

On average, one portion of a prepared meal costs

~1,5 Eur



170 000 portions of food were distributed per year.

Hot ready-made food is transported in the following areas: Akmenė, Venta, Alytus, Aukštadvaris, Druskininkai, Leipalingis, Ignalina, Didžiasalis, Kaišiadorys, Kaunas, Kazlų Rūda, Kupiškis, Marijampolė, Palanga, Panevėžys, Pivašiūnai, Simnas, Prienai, Raseiniai, Rietavas, Rokiškis, Šiauliai, Švenčionėliai, Tauragė, Utena, Užpaliai, Vyžuonos, Viduklė, Vilkaviškis, Vilnius. The total of 30 areas.



The program was carried out by the employees of the OMHD, volunteers, the Young Maltesers, a total of about

120 persons.

Sponsors also contributed to the carrying out of this program by constantly providing support in the form of bread, other foodstuffs, ready-made hot food.

ATTENDING ELDERLY PEOPLE AT THEIR HOME

All kinds of voluntary assistance at their home are provided for elderly people who are in better health and do not need supply of hot meals. After a volunteer and the person under his or her care become friends, a friendship between two people develops. They become like family members, and the volunteer takes over part of the household tasks, which the elderly person can no longer perform because of the illness or for other reasons. When the volunteer comes to the home of the elderly person, he or she communicates with the elderly person, pays bills online, orders foodstuffs, brings the food, the medicines he or she bought, helps in cooking, in managing the household, environment (firewood, garden, etc.), escorts to medical institutions, cemeteries, house of worship, congratulates the person under his or her care on the occasion of public holidays and other celebrations, the volunteer and the elderly person celebrate together, when the elderly person gets sick, the volunteer attends him or her in the medical facility, and they even travel together, attend events.



Such activity is carried out in almost all groups of the Maltesers, assistance is provided for

2800 elderly persons.

Elderly people are attended according to their needs, on average

once

a week.



DAY CARE CENTRES FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

When a person reaches the age of maturity, communication plays an important role in his or her life. Many elderly people feel lonely not only because their children live separately, but also because after the person reaches retirement age and is no longer engaged in employment activities, the person's social connections with the environment are torn apart.

In 2021,

2

day care centres for elderly people

were opened in Vilnius and Marijampolė thanks to the project, that was funded by

"The Global Fund for Forgotten People".

They unite

87

elderly persons, they employ

5

staff members.

Due to the quarantine, that was announced in the country, the centres worked remotely, in small groups or individually. When needed, the staff members and volunteers attended elderly people at their home.

A total of

5

Maltesers day care centres for elderly people –

Operate in Lithuania: in Alytus, Utena and Viduklė, plus 2 new ones.





CLUBS FOR ELDERLY PEOPLE

Elderly people, who are looking for any activities, are brought together in these clubs. The purpose of such clubs is to bring together elderly people who want to communicate, entertain, experience new things, who are striving for communality.



In 2021, due to the pandemic and the quarantine announced in the country, the activities of such clubs have shrunk, in 2 cities they simply stopped functioning.

Currently, there are

3

clubs for elderly people:

in Vilnius, Kaišiadorys, Žiežmariai.

They unite

60

elderly persons.



FIRST MALTESERS CARE HOME



it was opened on 16 September 2021 in Telšiai district, Viekšnaliai village, and was named after **Saint John the Baptist.**

The home can accommodate

28 persons.



With the permission of Algirdas Jurevičius, the bishop of Telšiai,

an official chapel

was established in the Maltesers home.

Virginijus Palionis, the parish priest of Luokė Church of All Saints,

is responsible for conducting devotional practices, liturgical celebrations and other religious practices that take place here.

THE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN "MALTESERS' SOUP"



During the fundraising campaign "Maltesers' Soup", that is held every year in November-December, funds are collected for the projects of elderly people.



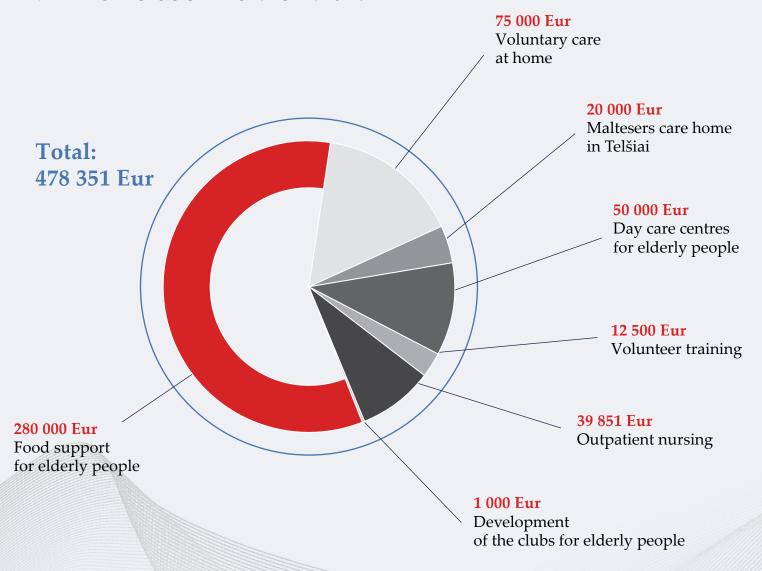
In 2021,

478 351 euros

were collected during the campaign.



THE USE OF THE "MALTESERS' SOUP" FUNDS IN 2022.



ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

DAY CARE CENTRES FOR CHILDREN



2021

16

Maltesers
day care
centres
for
children



380

children,

were being educated in them, they employed

39

staff members.



All centres provide an accredited social day care service for children because, by the decision of the state, the day care centres for children have shifted from project-based activity to an accredited service. Each centre employs at least one qualified social worker or social pedagogue.

On 30 March 2021, on the occasion of Easter, the remote meeting of

Diana Nausėdienė

the first lady of the country, with the Maltesers day care centres for children, was held. During this meeting, the children under the care of the Maltesers, recited poems, sang and told about their activity, played musical instruments, and shared information about how they prepare for the holidays, decorate the eggs, and abide by the traditions.

On 3 September 2021,

the Maltesers day care centre for children in Raseiniai

was officially opened.

Diana Nausėdienė,

the first lady of the country, participated in the opening ceremony of the centre.

ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

LEAVING CARE



In 2021, a new

leaving care

for young people from care homes and families at social risk was launched.



17
young persons from

2 cities

(Telšiai and Marijampolė) were worked with,

2 staff members

worked with them.

2 apartments

were leased for their independent living.

It is planned to provide assistance for

30

young persons

until the end of 2022.



Gražvydas Pavalkis, Children and Youth Programs Manager

77

The leaving care is intended for young people from families experiencing risk factors or for young people from care homes between the ages of 16 and 24. The purpose is to help a young person prepare for an independent life: complete studies, acquire a specialty, improve life skills, so that he or she could be independent of social assistance.

ASSISTANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

SCHOOL CAMPAIGN "BIG IDEAS IN A SMALL HEART"



Between August 3 and September 15, the support campaign "Big Ideas in a Small Heart" was held. During the campaign,

school supplies and funds

were collected. In 2021, due to the pandemic, the need for educational tools was more emphasized. New children's clothes and sportswear were also needed, because after the quarantine, it was difficult for families with many children to prepare their children for school.



The charity collected was handed over to the day care centres for children, special educational institutions or to small citizens growing up in large families.

In geographical terms, the support was sent to

25 areas of Lithuania,

it has reached more than

400 children.

The patron of the campaign:

Diana Nausėdienė, the first lady of the country.



A total of

585 Euros

was donated.

Items for the total of

6,392 euros

were collected.



ASSISTANCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS OF THE ORDER OF MALTA



In 2021, the Order of Malta's Camp for Disabled Youth "Malta Camp"

did not take place

due to the pandemic, nor did the pilgrimage with people with disabilities to Lourdes, France.



In June, between the announced quarantines, the camp for people with disabilities

"Turn Disability into Power 2021"

took place in Monciškės. Participated:

25 persons with disabilities, 24 helpers.



In August, the Maltesers took the persons with disabled under their care to the pilgrimage Tytuvėnai – Šiluva. Participated:

19 persons with disabilities, 17 helpers.

The pilgrimage ended with the Holy Mass, which was held by priest Vytautas Rapalis, who is the spiritual leader of the Maltesers. In September, the annual Indulgence Feast of Šiluva was attended by

50

persons with disabilities, who are under the care of the Maltesers

from all over Lithuania,

150 Maltesers

arrived, who were joined by the guests –

20 Maltesers from Germany.

VOLUNTEERING

VOLUNTEERING OF ADULTS



The maltesers have a team of more than

1268 adult volunteers.

They provide voluntary services to youth and children, families, people with disabilities, elderly people, take active role in emergency response.

In 2021, were held:

21 consultation

to the heads of local malteser groups

70 consultations

for volunteer coordinators

4 regional meetings

for volunteer coordinators

1 training

about volunteering in the organisation, intended for the employees of the central office

1 camp

for the heads of local malteser groups.

4 psycho-emotional workshop

20 volunteer coordinators

received mentorship

for volunteers and volunteer coordinators implemented

In 2021 two documents were prepared:

guide for volunteering in migration topic guide for volunteering in day care centers for children

qood practices workshop

between volunteer coordinators was implemented



YOUNG MALTESERS

The youth of the organisation, whose goal is to bring young people together and help them to shape their personality through voluntary activity in the social field, through spiritual education and training.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF MALTA RELIEF ORGANISATION IN LITHUANIA

In 2021, the organisation celebrated its 30th anniversary of the activity. It was founded in October 1991 by bishops Juozas Tunaitis, Jonas Boruta, priest Vaclovas Aliulis and others with a view to having a Catholic charity organisation in Lithuania, which would be guided in its activity by the values of the Order of Malta, and would provide assistance for people of all races, religions and nations.



The Maltesers were congratulated

on the 30th anniversary of the activity

by honourable guests from the Order of Malta, colleagues from other countries, leaders of the country and representatives of the Government: In September,

H. E. Dominique Prince de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel, the Grand Hospitaller

of the Order of Malta arrived in Lithuania. He had a meeting with

Gitanas Nausėda, President of the Republic of Lithuania.

During this meeting, the 30th anniversary of the activity and many years of support to the people of Lithuania were discussed.



30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF MALTA RELIEF ORGANISATION IN LITHUANIA

There were also meetings
with Arūnas Dulkys,
Minister of Health
of the Republic of Lithuania,
Monika Navickienė, Minister
of Social Security and Labour,
and with Agnė Bilotaitė,
Minister of the Interior.

The issues of the Covid-19 pandemic and migration, the need for assistance for the most vulnerable people were discussed at the meetings. The Hospitaller expressed his gratitude to the ministers for the partnership and active inclusion of the Maltesers in the activity, and gave each of them a souvenir – the bronze diptych.

On September 16, the Grand Hospitaller

in the opening ceremony of the first Maltesers care home in Viekšnaliai village.

The ceremony was also attended by

Monika Navickienė, Minister of Social Security and Labour, Lisa Sanchez-Corea Simpson,

Head of the Order of Malta's "The Global Fund for Forgotten People",

with the colleagues, Manfred Ritter Mautner von Markhof, Ambassador of the Order of Malta to Lithuania, and his deputy Krzysztof Edmund Wardawy.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF MALTA RELIEF ORGANISATION IN LITHUANIA



Between the meetings, the Grand Hospitaller visited the groups of Maltesers and

communicated live with the volunteers and people under their care –

he went to Kaunas and Viduklė.

In addition to the honourable guest from the Order of Malta,

the colleagues from Germany, Ireland and Latvia

came to congratulate Lithuanian Maltesers.

On September 9, a meeting of Lithuanians with their colleagues from Germany took place at the "Novotel" hotel.

The Maltese activity, that is carried out on the daily basis in Lithuania and Germany, work in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic and the flow of migrants, as well as cooperation opportunities were discussed.

After the event, hanging out in the yard of the central office of Lithuanian Maltesers was held.

On September 10, German and Irish Maltesers participated together with the Lithuanians in the indulgences of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Šiluva.



On September 11, the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the activity of Maltesers took place in "Vaidila" theatre. The Maltesers were congratulated by Aistė Kairienė, advisor to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, Monika Navickienė, Minister of Social Security and Labour, Agnė Andriuškevičienė, advisor to the Minister of Education, Science and Sports, Marius Čiurlionis, advisor to the Ministry of Health, other honourable guests, Maltesers of foreign countries.

Lithuanian Maltesers were awarded with letters of thanks, and were presented with the Angels of Kindness, the awards of the year

with the Crosses of the Order of Malta PRO MERITO MELITENSI, that were brought from Rome, and special medals.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE STATE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

ELIMINATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE PANDEMIC



Assistance for the State in eliminating

the consequences of the pandemic

was provided throughout 2021.



Work of the volunteers in nursing homes and hospitals was coordinated

(99 volunteers volunteered in 14 hospitals).



The Malteser volunteers participated in the vaccination processes – in 2021,

154

volunteers

worked at the "Litexpo" vaccination centre Cooperation took place with Caritas and the Red Cross.



Veronika Mačinskaitė, Civil protection coordinator



In addition to the pandemic, the year 2021 brought a new crisis – migrants who illegally crossed the Belarusian border.

Once again, we were able to prove that the non-governmental sector is ready and able to provide quality assistance for the State institutions in dealing with emerging crises. It is good to see the dialogue that is growing stronger and mutual understanding about crises that affect all of us, and how fast we are able to get mobilized in search for solutions.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE STATE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

ELIMINATION OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE CRISIS OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION THROUGH THE BELARUS-LITHUANIAN BORDER

Since 1 July 2021, the Maltesers became involved in the affairs of the illegal migration from Belarus. Visits to

2 frontier stations

(in Druskininkai and Kybartai) begun. Assistance for illegal migrants

(~300 persons)

was provided there.



In the frontier stations, care was taken for

the physical and psychological health of the people, warm clothes were provided, and steps were taken to ensure their leisure activities, thus trying to maintain a peaceful atmosphere

between the residents and the officers.

After the persons were transferred to different camps, the Maltesers had to take care for the residents of the Naujininkai refugee centre in Vilnius.

This centre coordinates humanitarian aid (search for a charity, sorting of the donated items, etc.) and organisation of activities (Lithuanian language lessons for women, celebrating birthdays, sports activities).

Approximately

10 volunteers

have been volunteering at Naujininkai Centre since the middle of November.

ASSISTANCE FOR THE STATE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES



The new activity of the Maltesers started in November 2021.

Assistance is provided for

81 refugees

from Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan.



The purpose of the activity

is to help people who have, for one reason or another, to flee their home and to become a full-fledged part of Lithuanian society.



Everything begins from the smallest, completely technical actions, such as registration at the outpatient clinic, assistance in finding the necessary transport route, payment of compensations and obtaining the necessary documents, to social and cultural actions, such as explaining why Lithuanians behave in one way or another, how it would be better for them, as refugees, to adapt to the local environment.

In 2022, the activity is planned to be expanded, depending on the current geopolitical and migration situation in Lithuania.

SPIRITUALITY OF THE MALTESERS





Information about spiritual journeys, Holy Masses and events of the Maltesers from all around Lithuania is published on the constant basis on the social network Facebook, in the group

Spiritual education of the Maltesers.

Due to the requirements related to the pandemic, most festive Holy Masses were held remotely.





Were held live:

The day of spirituality

with Holly Mass in the camp for the group leaders of the Maltesers, that took place in Palanga.

The day of spirituality with Holly Mass

in the camp for people with disabilities, that took place in Monciškės.

Retreats in the Tiberiade monastery

were held in November at the initiative of the Maltesers of Kaunas. Participated:

24
Maltesers.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

These are paid services. The funds, that were received for the services, were used to maintain the services themselves, and others to enhance professionalism in helping people in need. They are provided by qualified professionals in their fields.



The ride-hailing service "Let's go"

The service is intended for transporting or giving a ride to persons with various disabilities by transport adapted specially for this purpose. People with disabilities, who are lying and sitting in a wheelchair can be transported. The service is provided in Vilnius and Kaunas and in the districts of these cities. People are also transported to other cities or countries.









"Let's go" in Vilnius:

number of rides – 1,500, number of the employees – 4, distance travelled (in km) – 16,675, number of cars – 3

(ambulance car for the disabled – 1), assistance was provided for 974 persons.











"Let's go" in Kaunas:

number of rides – 3,184, number of the employees – 2, distance travelled (in km) – 35 986, number of cars – 2, assistance was provided for 206 persons

(in addition to one-time rides, children with didsabilities are transported throughout the year on a permanent route).

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

HOME HELP AND DAY SOCIAL CARE AT THE PERSON'S HOME

Social care constitutes social services of providing complex assistance for a person at the person's home, that requires supervision by professionals.



The employees help strengthen the person's abilities and independence, maintain social relations with the family and community, overcome disability, illness, social exclusion, and help prevent other social problems. They also provide the respite care service to the close relatives of the person.



During 2021, professional day social care services were provided to



which constituted more than



15,000 working hours, 13 employees worked –

social workers and social worker assistants.



The services are provided in Vilnius, Kaunas, Marijampolė and Alytus.



SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

INTRODUCTION OF SOCIAL SERVICES QUALITY STANDARD "NOKAS"



In 2021, the introduction of social services quality standard

"NOKAS"

began.

It is important for the Maltesers to provide social services, which are necessary for the dignified life of the persons under their care. We understand the quality of social services as a culture of continuous improvement.



The quality requirements imposed by this standard are not exhaustive. They are only guidelines for organisations with a view to responding to the needs of various vulnerable groups, to develop new innovative methods of assistance.



1.2% PIT SUPPORT



We are strongly inspired for good work

by people's trust in us.

This year, the residents
of Lithuania allocated

1.2% of their PIT for the

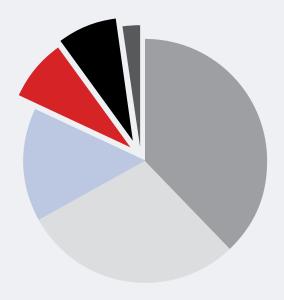
Maltesers, which amounts to

294 170,43 EUR

It is a huge support, which allows us to pursue the set goals, to fulfil obligations and take care for people in need. We promise that we will try to meet the expectations of each of you, to maintain faith in goodness, and to grow and improve.



FINANCIAL REVIEW

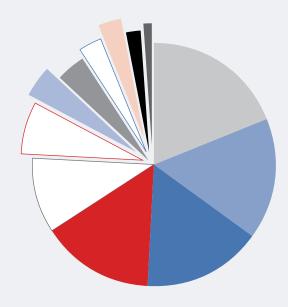


INCOME

2,925,947 EUR



^{*} Budgetary funds are the funds of the state and municipalities and the resources of European structural and other funds.



EXPENDITURE

2,925,947 EUR

- Programs for elderly people, 19 %
- Programs for children and young people, 16 %
- Costs of the provided charity and support, 16 %
- Management and administration of the organisation, 15 %
- Maltesers Home, 10 %
- Cost price of the social services provided, 7 %

- Mobile network operator fee for the collected donations, 4%
- Other costs, 4 %
- Pandemic, migrants, 3 %
- Young Maltesers' activity and projects, 3 %
- Programs for people with disabilities, 2 %
- Volunteering, 1%

MAJOR SPONSORS



Amount of the support received by the Maltesers in 2021 –

29374,22 EUR

The money received after the return of the deposit beverage containers in LIDL stores can be allocated for children,

and the retail chain itself
doubles these funds
at the end of the
quarter

(has even tripled them during the pandemic).

BARBORA

In 2021, people donated foodstuffs for an amount of 18 484,25

EUR

People who order food in the online store can also buy it for the people under the care of the Maltesers.



Provided support for 2 families:

The following work was done at the home of the single mother Regina in Aukštadvaris town:

11 plastic windows and 3 doors were installed, an interior wall was erected,

to support the curved ceiling, the ceiling was finished with boards, other work was performed.

After their house burned down during the fire, the family of Šilagiai from Pušalotas town was provided with help.

The total support provided in 2021 amounts to

15 000 EUR.



In 2021, the people under the care of the Maltesers received bread products for

14049,47 EUR

We have been in a long-term partnership with the sponsor.

contribution of "Gardesis"

The daily

bread

to make the life of the needy elderly people richer and more satisfying coincides with our goals.



Our long-term supporters and constant companions allocated

funds to support single elderly people with food,

as well as to provide assistance at the home of elderly people.

14 000 EUR

were donated during the fundraising campaign "Maltesers' soup".

SPONSORS





































































PARTNERS























INFORMATION SPONSORS

















CONTRIBUTE





Photo by: Egidijus Knispelis and Maltesers Archive

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