

About us

Tuesday, 14 May 2013

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Balkan Sunflowers Kosova is an international grassroots organisation, founded in 1999 to aid the Kosovar refugees. Volunteers from around the world saw the TV images of the war and refugee emergency. They wanted to help in ways that money could not.

They believed that person-to-person contact with aid workers who came to work as friends and neighbors, might help restore community life in ways that emergency aid and political support alone could not. Balkan Sunflowers Kosova believes that volunteers – international and local – participating in community life, crucially promotes the ideals of a caring and open society.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova's current projects are: the Learning Centers Network, School Mediation program, Strategy Advocates program.

Recent projects include: KOSINT project, Kosovo Education and Employment Network project (KEEN), Education through Dialogue and Integration (EDI phase 2), Activating Cohesion and Tolerance (ACT), EU Support for the Implementation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Strategy Phase 2- Education for Integration (EU SIMRAES 2), Integration of Socially Excluded Persons in Pilot Localities, Improving the Health Situation of Children and Adults from Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian Communities.

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova primary focus areas are Community, Human Dignity, and Children and Youth. Balkan Sunflowers Kosova, through the support of our donors, provided more than 100,000 hot meals to children participating in our Learning Centers Network program to date.

BALKAN SUNFLOWERS KOSOVA (BSFK) builds activist lives for social change. We inspire and engage in community action for human rights and dignity, working in education, health, culture, citizenship, employment, and respect for diversity.

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Scope of work:

The protection of human rights; the social, emotional and intellectual development of all people in Kosovo; and the promotion of community empowerment - through developing and implementing programs for education, research, advocacy, arts, culture and other humane activities.

BALKAN SUNFLOWERS KOSOVA (BSFK) is a nongovernmental and non-profit association with the following objectives that are specified within BSFK ISO 9001 Quality Management System:

• Improve the educational, social, psychological, health, emotional and intellectual development of children and young people, their families and their communities.

• Advocate and mediate for the human rights of marginalized groups.

• Propel positive social change and support community empowerment through research, advocacy, training, mentoring, volunteerism and innovative program development.

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Our objectives will be achieved by:

• Performing our activity to a high quality level as measured against benchmarks

• Continuous improvement of capacity to meet objectives in our activities

• Fulfilling national and international laws, conventions and policies that form the basis for our work with young people

• Training and professional development of staff, volunteers and activists on the ground

• Establishing effective communication with stakeholders and relevant organizations concerning children and youth learning and development

â€¢ Establishing and maintaining the Quality Management System based on the managing of processes, in accordance with the ISO 9001:2008 standard

Balkan Sunflowers Kosova is one of the winners of the 2013 Erste Awards for Social Integration. For the 2013 award there were 1988 nominees from non-profit organizations in 13 countries. 136 were shortlisted as finalists and invited to Vienna for networking and the awards announcement on 27 June 2013.Â

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