



## **PROJECT „DEVELOPMENT OF OPEN YOUTH CENTRE IN RAMYGALA“**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October, 2014 the treaty of support among Ministry of social security and labour, Central project management agency and Panevėžys district municipality administration was signed. Total sum of the project „Development of open youth centre in Ramygala“ is 231 954 Euro (therein 208 759 Euro is support of EEA GRANTS and co-financing, and 23 195 Euro is contribution of Panevėžys district municipality).

The project implemented under the programme „Children and youth at risk“ of EEA GRANTS 2009–2014.

Young people and youth at risk do not have place where they could spend leisure, express creativity, satisfy social needs outside school, engage in useful activities or get high quality professional services. In the frames of this project the first open youth centre was established in Panevėžys district. It is expected that establishment of open youth centre will stimulate and activate youth activities, and it will serve as contribution for creation of youth open spaces network in the district. This centre will be opened to all youth and youth NGOs of Panevėžys district. Qualified social, educational and psychological services will be provided by competent professionals in open youth centre as well.

Target groups of the project are 14–29 years old young people of Panevėžys district, youth NGOs and NGOs that are working with youth.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2014 project was presented to target groups. There were over 60 participants in this publicity event.

On 29<sup>th</sup> of May, 2015 contract between Panevėžys district municipality administration and Joint stock company „Gedsta“ was signed. In order to improve the well-being of youth at risk the building of Ramygala cultural centre was modernized and adapted for youth activities.

As it is planned in the treaty of support, computers, TV and video equipment, sporting goods, sewing machines, music instruments, furniture and etc. were purchased. All this equipment will serve for diversity of youth activities.

Everyone who is interested in life of open youth centre in Ramygala can find all news in Facebook account, which was created in order to disseminate information about training programmes, events and activities for the youngsters of Panevėžys district.

There were three the inter-agency meetings among representatives of police, jobcentre, youth organizations and Panevėžys district municipality administration organized. During these discussions considered youth employment opportunities in the field of culture, discussed question of youth ride from remote areas to open youth centre in Ramygala and etc. All organizations agreed to develop cooperation among the institutions.

On 25<sup>th</sup> of June, 2016 open youth centre of Ramygala was presented to the public. During this event people were introduced to the goals of open youth centre and planned activities in order to promote youth motivation, working and social skills.

90 young people had lectures about small and medium business. During active and creative trainings participants were taught of economic elements and successful integration into labor market.

Two youth workers and two volunteers of open youth centre finished training program of the development of socially responsible personality. Trained specialists will use methods and technique of this program in the following activities of open youth centre. 30 youngsters were trained under this program as well.

On 20<sup>th</sup> of October, 2016 the project held its final conference in order to present the project's results and activities that were implemented.

Establishment of open youth centre would help to develop effective youth policy implementation in Panevėžys district; also it could contribute to the reduction of economic and social disparities in the EEA.

**For more information seek Sandra Budreikienė,  
youth worker of Ramygala open youth centre**