



**Y's Menettes International
Project Coordinator 2018- 2022**

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Update Report – 2nd October 2020

Y's Menettes International Project for 2018 -2020 Coaching for Youth Employment and Starting of a Social Business in Tirana, Albania.

There are some Y's Menettes clubs that do not donate to the International Project Fund and I do understand that some clubs feel they have other important projects closer to home to support but I would like to share some very happy, positive feedback that I have received from some special young people who we the Y's Menettes have helped in Tirana, Albania.

Hopefully my report will show you just how big a difference we can make and you may consider donating in the future.

This year 2020 has seen us experiencing a year as we have never seen before. Sadly there are still about 100 new cases of the Covid virus being found each day in Albania so café's and bars are still operating in a restricted manner but when they are open we have four wonderful young people working very hard to make TOK a special place to go to.

These four young people have all had sadness in their lives and all lived in a local orphanage. They are all so happy to have been given the chance to work with the Tirana YMCA at TOK. I have attached a beautiful document where each of these four young ones tell me of their hopes and thank us for the start we have given them. I have asked for their permission to share this document with you and they were happy for me to do so.

The director of YMCA Tirana, Eglá Lula, was very happy to receive the additional CHF 6000 that the Y's Menettes gave her as it allowed her to make the wages payments. With the restricted opening times they are able to cover all the operating costs and are hopeful they will cover the wages as well in the very near future.

Eglá told me that recently it was International Day of Adolescent Girls and that she had organized a meeting of children aged 11-12 years together with the TOK girls. The TOK girls shared with them their stories and how they are being integrated into our project and in the labour market.

Our project has ended at Tirana YMCA. Twenty young adults have been educated to provide them with the skills to do applications for a job, attend interviews and get a position. The TOK Café / Bar continues to operate, teaches staff as well as promotes the YMCA to the community.

It has been a pleasure working with Eglá. Eglá has kept us up to date with the progress of the project at all times.

I wish her and her team our very best wishes and hope that the TOK continues to grow.

Our new project is **Sports and informal education as tools of healthy lifestyle promotion among vulnerable children at Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine.** Here we will create an outdoor sports playground with gym equipment in the grounds of the Regional Centre where orphans and poor children are cared for. It will be a wonderful community asset.

Viktor Serbulov of the YMCA Ukraine is the Project Coordinator.

Our first instalment of 30% of the funds allocated for this project has been paid to allow the project to commence.

Viktor has sent us some photos. The first is of the site where the sports ground and outside gym will be located.

The first task is to remove an old steel shade canopy and the associated rubbish. Level the ground and set out the site for the outside gym equipment.



The second photo is of children who are clients of the Zaporizhzhia Regional Centre of Social and Rehabilitation for Children. The children all live at the centre. Since 1999 the Centre has accepted more than 10,000 children. Most of the children who arrive at the Centre are highly vulnerable to illness due to the conditions they have experienced in their life. They suffer from hunger, bad living habits and lack of sanitation. The sports ground and gym equipment will be a welcome addition for them.

I look forward to seeing our project progress and will share it with you all.

Y'sly,

Joy