

Estonia Keila

Bi-Annual Report 2017



Photo: SOS Archives



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Thank you for your support to the children in Keila

Currently, 65 children and youngsters live in the 13 families housed in SOS Children's Village Keila, in the north-western part of Estonia. Many of these children have been through much in life, and in the village they get to process the past with the help of professional psychologist. They also have the opportunity to go in different forms of therapy, where they use dancing and painting to express their feelings.

A total of 23 young people live in the youth facility in Keila, and with support from the SOS team they are preparing for adult life. The vast majority of them are students, some have graduated and some have taken the first steps into working life.

Thanks to you and other donors, children who have had a tough start in life can get a good upbringing with parents, siblings and a good education that allows them to grow up to be strong and independent adults.





Soccer is life!

Oskar came to the children's village in Keila when he was only three months old. Today he is 14 years old, and just like many other children of his age, his life revolves around soccer.

"Ever since the first time I saw some children play, I've known that this is what I want to do. The same year I went to the children's village's soccer camp, and I spent all summer training", says Oskar.

When autumn came, Oskar continued playing several times a week, and he didn't miss one single practice. Today, if he isn't at school or studying, his mother often finds him at the soccer field.

"I think soccer is a bit like life itself. You can see the goal in front of you, and then you have to find the determination that drives you forward", he explains.



Stories from Keila



"I will never forget the first time I came to the village, and the first time I got to meet the children. They were standing at the door, looking at me with big, kind eyes. I fell in love with them right away. It felt so natural to become their mother, even though they weren't my biological children. It's amazing how life works out sometimes!"

Mall, SOS-mother.

"My first year at school was pretty good overall. Sometimes I needed extra help in math. My favorite subject was Estonian. I like all classmates and my teacher. This fall I start second grade. It will be even more fun!"

Mari-Liis, 8 years old.



"What I like the most is cycling and play soccer. And to draw and play games! I cycle with my best friends Jarmo and Kristofer. We are watching movies together as well. My favorite movie is "The Great Friendly Giant". It's a little scary but I like the end!"

Aron, 7 years old.





UN Sustainable Development Goals

On September 25th 2015, countries adopted a set of goals to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure prosperity for all as part of a new sustainable development agenda. Each goal has specific targets to be achieved until 2030.

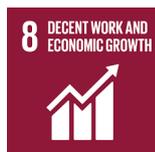
For SOS Children's Villages, these goals are a confirmation that we are heading in the right direction. We work towards all the goals, mainly covering the milestones 1, 3, 4, 8, 10, 16 and 17. As a donor, among other things, you support the work with goal number 1, 4 and 8.



Goal 1 – End poverty. Achieving a world where poverty is a thing of the past is the main aim of the SDGs. Central to this goal is ensuring that no child grows up in poverty. As the number one reason why children are admitted to SOS family strengthening programs is poverty, this goal is central to the work of SOS Children's Villages. We are passionate about helping poor families and communities break the cycle of poverty by helping them build their capacities and resilience, and improving access to education and vocational training, including for young adults.



Goal 4 – Ensure quality education for all. It is tremendously important to ensure that every child and young person has access to quality education, regardless of their background. Education not only impacts the individual, but also the individual's community and society. Globally, 263 million children between 6 and 17 years were out of school in 2015. Children and youth without parental care and young people in emergency situations often face additional challenges when trying to access educational opportunities.



Goal 8 – Create equal job opportunities for all. In 2014, 73.3 million young people were unemployed, and the global youth unemployment rate reached 13% – almost three times the rate for adults. Everyone of working age should have the opportunity to find decent work to support themselves and live a life with dignity. SOS Children's Villages supports young people without parental care in developing the skills and self-confidence they need to develop skills needed in the job market and to get decent work. We also help parents from vulnerable families to access vocational training, so they can find decent work and give their children a brighter future.