



Budapest - Jozsefvaros

Magdolna Quarter Program II.

Integrated social town rehabilitation program
in the period of 2008-2010

1.1 Quality education program [T1]

1.1.1 The renovation of the Lakatos Menyhért Primary and High School [T1/1]

The Lakatos Menyhért Primary and High School is the only institution of the quarter providing basic and intermediate education in which art and media trainings are held as well. The school, as an open, hosting institution, has a more and more important role in the quarter because by providing space for the different local, civilisation and cultural programs, it may become the cultural basis of the immediate surroundings for the young people and their parents in the quarter (library and reading room; computer usage: practising mathematics and spelling, foreign languages, chess, etc. to encourage autonomous learning; fitness and table tennis room, workshops, rooms for listening to music and playing instruments).

The renovation will continue within the framework of the Magdolna Quarter Program II. (MQP II.): all the doors and windows will be replaced by modern, insulated, safe ones, and wheelchair ramps and an elevator will make the building accessible.

1.1.2 The programs of the Lakatos Menyhért Primary and High School as an open institution [T1/2]

The aim of the different programs organized in the school is to help the pupils to learn the methods of autonomous learning and self-study, to help them to develop practical skills instead of lexical knowledge also in the fields of computer and media studies, and art. The planned programs are: out-of-schedule disadvantage compensation for the pupils of the quarter, well-known roma artists hold trainings and workshops for young roma people receptive for different arts (dance, music painting, sculpture), creating and operating a cellar club (as the place for leisure activities like sport, art and club workshops).

1.2 Community development program [T2]

1.2.1 The cultural, community development and education programs of the Glove Factory Community House [T2/1]

One of the most important aim of the programs and the community events of the Glove Factory Community House is to convey the ability and importance of understanding and reception between people of different cultural backgrounds. The most important programs are the following:

1) "KIDPIX -digital childhood" program

The continuation and expanding of the "KIDPIX - digital childhood" art and media studies program, established successfully under the Magdolna Quarter Program I. and the starting of further programs based on the children's creativity and the development of their talents.

2) Drama teaching

Drama pedagogy, through processing the events of the everyday life in a playful, "theatrical" way, may help the local young people to understand each other's motivations better and to familiarize themselves with different types of behaviour resulting from different cultural backgrounds.

3) Talent-supporting program

Because of their social background, it is a lot more difficult for the talented young people of the quarter to get a talent-supporting education. Thus, there is going to be a talent-supporting program in the community house to provide a background for the young people having the ability for significant achievements.

4) Lifestyle consulting

A psychiatrist helps the young people in managing and solving their problems in their families, relationships or with their integration, and provides them with advice for their lifestyles to avoid these problems with a fair chance.

5) Conflict management trainings

The teachers' work is helped by conflict management trainings and consulting. Because of the special status of the young people in the quarter, this form of training must be provided to as many teachers as possible.

1.2.2 Community development programs [T2/2]

The aim of the programs mobilizing the local community is to establish and strengthen the dialogue between the inhabitants of the quarter and the discussion and the common settlement of the emerging problems.

1) Magdolna Quarter Days

As the "little sister" of the Jozsef day celebrations, the Magdolna Quarter Days, a colourful, multi-day event of cultural and sport programs, will be organized each year from the end of May 2009.

2) Operating a neighbourhood and civil council

The so-called neighbourhood council may become the self-organizing power of the inhabitants of the quarter, which manages the discussion of the problems concerning the community or a part of it, manages the local community programs and helps presenting the Magdolna Quarter Program II. to the inhabitants and involving them in it.

3) Sport programs

The aim of the yearly Magdolna Cup of the most popular sports (football, basketball, handball, dance etc.) is to lessen the isolation of the young people of the quarter. Through sport, presenting the talented ones an opportunity, the primary and the high school could become part of the school sport life.

4) Establishing a Program Fund

The smaller community and cultural programs held in the Glove Factory Community House and Matyas square, trying to satisfy the inhabitants' demands and needs, are funded and organized by the Program Fund (Matyas Square Evenings, afternoon workshops, counselling on the square, for instance).

1.2.3 Establishing a community sport yard in Homok street [T2/3]

On the site neighbouring the Lakatos Menyhert Primary and High School, near the Glove factory Community House, at 7 Homok street, a community sport yard will be constructed.

1.3 Social and crime prevention program [T3]

1.3.1 Prevention programs against victimization [T3/1]

(a) Crime prevention classes for senior pupils

The police and specialists of organizations dealing with the protection of victims and criminals present and "personalize" their institutions, they provide the minimal trust and information which enable the pupils to find and use these services in case of necessity, and to dare to recommend them to their relatives, friends and acquaintances in need.

(b) Free time activities with restorative techniques for pupils with behaviour problems or marginal status

Professionals use community development and conflict management techniques during group work classes especially with the "problematic classes" in the Lakatos Menyhert Primary and High School as base institution and in other three schools of the district.

(c) Crime prevention and conflict management in the school - lectures for teachers

The staff of the co-operating primary schools in Jozsefvaros and other volunteering teachers take part in a professional training which enables them to use the restorative technique of conflict management in their schools.

(d) Constructing sleeping galleries for the children and young members of needy families

The small sizes of flats (the ratio of flats with one room is 55% in the quarter) prevents the construction of an intimate area which is indispensable for adolescent young people. The financial and professional support helps in forming private territories for the young people and thus may reduce one of the reasons of staying away from home on weekdays.

1.3.2 Social/drug work on public places [T3/2]

Professionals with decades of experience establish and operate a so called drop in centre for the members of excluded groups of society.

Their services are: personal care, group therapy and the direction of clients to the appropriate service. Also, there will be a supervised night sport service (table tennis room) in the frameworks of the program for loafing young people. Another co-operating

organization seeks contact with the drug addicted young people of the quarter through street work and tries to make personal contact with them.

1.3.3 Establishing the system of "Neighbourhood policeman/caretaker" [T3/3]

The neighbourhood policeman carries out foot service. With the help of his professional, local, social and communicative knowledge, he is able to develop a good relationship with the inhabitants and workers of the quarter belonging to different age and status groups, to get to know their problems and even to help them to reach different services (carrying information). Beside the helping, service work, he of course carries out the obligations of his profession in each case when there is need for police intervention. The program employs well trained neighbourhood policemen for one and a half years, continually recording and reporting about their experiences. The centre of the public security-strengthening neighbourhood policemen will be 16 Danko street.

1.3.4 Looking after antisocial and immigrant families in the quarter [T3/4]

The program is aimed at looking after 10 families who are victims of families/people's and immigrants antisocial behaviour or crimes or fouls. According to the needs, the program strengthens the women's family uniting and supporting function by providing mother-child trainings, help in the integration of patronized or imprisoned family members back to the family, community, society, and fighting the integration problems of the "immigrants".

1.3.5 Safe gate, safe public area [T3/5]

There are many house buildings in the quarter the gates of which can not be locked, the gateways of which are not lit, and where the entryphones are not working. Due to the open gates, the residents (and the passers-by) are possible subjects of the quarter's typical crimes in the gateway, in the garden, in the stairway and in the flats of the house. The program contains the strengthening and replacement of the presently open gates of 10 house buildings, and constructing a lighting and entryphone system in them. An important part is the cleaning and closing of places that may attract unauthorized (homeless, drug addicted) people.

Supporting low-income pensioners and other needy people in installing safe door and window locks: supporting the construction of basic flat security equipment for the needy and those families and people who repeatedly became the victim of crimes.

The Danko street and especially the neighbourhood of the building of the homeless catering organisation is one of the focal points of the quarter. The committing of fouls and crimes and the fear of criminals can partly be attributed to the presence of homeless people. To maintain the order and the safety of the public area, social workers with experience, trained in Danko street, perform street work especially in the critical parts of the day.

1.3.6 “Liveable Danko street” - For a safe Magdolna quarter professional workgroup [T3/6]

The workgroup consists of local police professionals and the concerned representatives of the local government, dealing with public safety and crime prevention. The workgroup executes and makes executed the action plan, evaluates its results and possibly unsuccessful elements. One of its main tasks is to organize and evaluate from a crime prevention point of view the town rehabilitation works concentrating in Danko street, to recommend and execute the necessary interventions (“liveable Danko street”).

1.4 Building reconstruction with the participation of resident communities [K1]

1.4.1 Reconstruction of self government-owned blocks of flats involving the residents and organizing the community [K1/1]

Residency: the bad dwelling conditions in some of the buildings is due to overcrowding, so during the reconstruction, with conserving the values of the buildings, community areas or “green areas” will be constructed.

Building engineering systems: the most important task is the complete renovation of the building engineering systems, in most of the cases it means the complete replacement of the pipes. Operating old pipes results in significantly higher costs for the local governments as well as the residents. There is also environmental damage as wall damping, that damages the structure of the building and causes a flat even to be uninhabitable, is caused by corroded water pipes. The dangerous electrical systems, the heavily overloaded gas pipes and the continuously breaking and leaking water pipe and sewer systems, embittering the lives of the residents, must completely be replaced. Because of the higher and higher water costs, to help the economic use of water a cistern must be constructed to re-utilize rainwater, as part of the environmental sustainability.

Building structure: the buildings have significant structural problems. The balcony corridors, the stairs, the roofs are in bad condition, at many places even dangerous to life. It is an important task to execute the energy saving investments: the replacement of the doors and windows, the insulation of the back and side firewalls, the reconstruction of the chimney and if possible, installing solar cells.

Yards: constructing so-called “Green Yards” contributes to the improvement of the residents’ living standards through turning the inner yards green; besides, the construction of gardens helps in forming self-organizing communities. Beyond the aesthetic importance of transforming the yards, the reconstruction has further practical advantages as it is well-known that the lives of the residents of the old buildings in the area is embittered mostly by wall damping. An important part of the yard reconstruction is to extinguish this problem and to make it possible to carry out additional insulation works on the flats.

Society Program: beside the technological issues, the most important problems are tension and conflicts between the residents due to their different socialization. The Society Program helps to form communities and thus avoid and manage conflicts. By providing the possibility of communication and helping the resident community, an other

aim, the long-term preservation of the reconstruction, can also be realized. The most important part of the program is the system of resident forums that accompany the whole process of reconstruction. On these forums social questions concerning the community and questions regarding cohabitation will be discussed as well as actual things about the reconstruction.

The list of the blocks of flats to be reconstructed under the project: 16 Danko str., 20 Danko str., 30 Danko str., 33/A Danko str., 17 Dobozi str., 8 Kisfutaros str., 14 Lujza str., 44 Magdolna str., 2/B Nagyfutaros str., 12 Szerdahelyi str., 13 Szerdahelyi str., 7 Danko str., 4 Erdelyi str., 22 Karacsony S. str., 4 Szigetvari str.

1.4.2 Reconstruction of apartment houses [K1/2]

The program provides the possibility for apartment houses with savings to reconstruct one or more building structure elements and to renovate the commonly owned areas and technological equipment. Promoting the reconstruction of the houses and the forming of a more habitable living environment enhances the population retaining powers of the quarter. The following houses take part in the program: 43 Dobozi str., 4 Matyas sqr., 12 Matyas sqr., 16 Szerdahelyi str., 124 Baross str., 14 Matyas sqr., 20 Nagyfutaros str.

1.5 Public area rehabilitation program [K2]

1.5.1 Rehabilitation of Matyas square and the connecting public areas [K2/1]

Traffic reorganization on the southern and western side of Matyas square, constructing a public lavatory and watch house, public area rehabilitation of the Tavaszmezo str, Matyas square - Koszoru str. junction [K2/1/1]

A significant development of the Magdolna Quarter Program I. was the reconstruction of Matyas square with community effort. The function change of the square will be realized with the traffic reorganization under MNP II. The priority of the vehicle traffic will be placed on the southern and western side of the square, by making the road sections that lengthen the Nagyfutaros street, two-way streets. The through traffic disappears from the eastern and northern side of the square, and the community area utilizable by the inhabitants.

The MNP II. makes the renewed park area complete with further essential elements, because constructing a public lavatory on the Danko street side is also part of the program, as well as the closed building helping the park keeper's work on the Erdely street side. The continuation of the public area rehabilitation from the Matyas square in a western direction will be started, the section between Tavaszmezo street and Koszoru street will be reconstructed to be a pedestrian area.

Turning the sections between Erdelyi street, Homok street and Matyas square and the northern and eastern side of Matyas square into a pedestrian area [K2/1/2]

The Erdelyi street and Matyas square of less traffic fits the new community functions, the open school, the Glove Factory Community House. As a result of the reconstruction of the public area, a greater green area is formed, the pedestrians can use a greater area, and owing to the lack of through traffic, the public areas between the community spaces become safer.

1.5.2 Danko street Neighbourhood Leisure Yard, preserving the Danko street public area together with homeless people [K2/2]

The site of 18 Danko street will be united with the empty, neglected site behind 20 Danko street. Afterwards, there will be a new, enclosed sport grounds constructed with a pavilion including a public lavatory. The maintenance of the leisure yard is done with the help of the Oltalom Charity Association, the Wesley János Pastoral College, the Public Area Control Authority of Jozsefvaros and neighbouring residents. The yard to be renewed requires a strengthened public area social work, which is undertaken by the College, as the largest social worker trainer institution of the country.

1.6 Economic program [G]

One of the most serious problems of the quarter is the low education, the lack of skills, the high rate of unemployment and those living on casual work. The employment problems of the disadvantaged and roma population can be solved with target-group specific labour market and social services, developments and trainings.

1.6.1 Training programs to help re-employment [G1]

The target group of the training programs are the disadvantaged, unskilled, low-educated adult population of the Magdolna quarter who live mostly casual work or have been unemployed for a longer period of time.

The elements of the training program:

- Remedial training to complete the 8 classes of the primary school,
- Remedial trainings prior to vocational trainings,
- Four, short vocational trainings,
- Counselling to help the integration in the labour market and to prevent the dropout of the participants,
- Counselling and training with lifestyle counselling to help women to begin working,
- Counselling about starting to work and finding a job for our participants and the unemployed. The counselling is helped by professionals and mentors.
- Continuous employment exchange and mentor counselling in the Glove Factory Community House.

1.6.2 Service expanding programs [G2]

5 empty rooms will be chosen in the quarter in which new services, satisfying the needs of the residents and the community, can be held. Those services, that are not present yet in the given area - hairdresser, beautician, shoemaker, locksmith, restorer, carpenter and those, who want to develop their businesses but do not have enough capital, are given the opportunity to settle.

The service providers will have to apply and the winners will have to contract to offer adequate and affordable services for the inhabitants of the quarter. They will have to provide a professional training place for those taking part in the employment program to obtain the professional skills.

The health condition of the population in Jozsefvaros and especially in the Magdolna quarter is one of the worst in Budapest. The local National Public Health and Medical Officers' Service can help in improving the health status of the people and leading them towards a healthy lifestyle; in the program they undertook to organize regular screenings, sex education programs and individual counselling in the quarter. The headquarters of the organization is in the quarter, and by reconstructing their buildings, new client, personal counselling and training rooms will be constructed under MQP II.