

NURDOR

National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer



“Camp of Love and Hope – Ivanjica 2011”

This year the National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer organized the 2nd annual camp for the rehabilitation of children treated for cancer, accompanied by their parents, in the Special Hospital for Rehabilitation in Ivanjica.

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From August 15th to 25th this year, NURDOR's Camp of Love and Hope brought together fifty-seven children treated for cancer from all over Serbia. The unconditional donations from various companies and private individuals, in the amount of 2.3 million dinars, provided NURDOR with the necessary resources for implementing the camp.

For ten days in Ivanjica, the children had the opportunity to socialize and participate in a variety of creative, fun, athletic and psychological workshops. Orienteering, horseback riding, and a course on diving in the pool are just some of the activities in which this year's camp participants could test their skills.



Important information

- Every day a child becomes ill with cancer in Serbia
- Each week a child dies cancer in Serbia
- More than 400 children per year are treated for cancer in Serbia
- Fortunately, a large percentage of them are cured (60%)
- The most common malignant disease in children is acute leukemia, which has the



The children and their parents got to work with an expert team of psychologists and sociologists, volunteers from NURDOR who had undergone special training in the Montessori method, friends/volunteers from Zagreb, as well as members of the Association. Free transport for the children to Ivanjica this year was provided by Lasta. Toys and all other materials required to conduct workshops were donated by DexyCo, Officecom, Tropic Trade, SAVPO, Handrass, Optimum, Enco Book, Fruvita, Pertini toys, Univerzal, and Mirna Kuća. Orienteering was taught by representatives of the orientation club, “Dandelion and Jasenica”, and diving taught by the diving club, “Big Blue.”

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The Montessori method of education for NURDOR volunteers

The Montessori method of education is based on trust in children's creative potential, desire and need to learn, and the right of each child to be treated as a complete individual. Before heading to Ivanjica, NURDOR, in collaboration with Mme. Mirjana from the Mirna Kuća [“Quiet House”] agency, organized a twenty-lesson program for four of their volunteers who would participate in music-education and creative workshops with kids at the summer camp. Dragana, Aleksandra, Dada and Jelena gained new knowledge and experience which made it a more beautiful, interesting and enjoyable stay at the camp in Ivanjica for the youngest but also for the older children.

This training is a continuation of our friendship with Mme. Mirjana, who joined us as a volunteer in the children's creative workshops for the “Time for a Cup of



Daddy Steva Back in Action

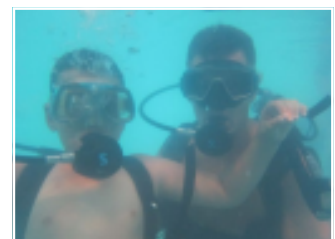
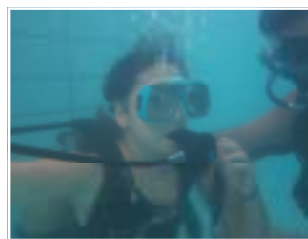


This year one of the most popular activities at Camp was once again hipotherapy, conducted by Daddy Steva Šimonović, with the help of Mama Jasmina and their two horses, Zvezdana and Mališa. Daily riding was just one of Daddy Steva's skills to offer kids and the occasional brave mother. His somewhat unusual, but very impressive interpretation of our epic poetry, under the glow of candles and in imaginative costumes, left everyone breathless.



Thanks to "Big Blue"—the kids got to test their diving skills

One of the novelties of this year's camp was a course in diving, which was organized by members of the diving club "Big-blue" from Belgrade. In the theory part of the course, participants of the Camp, girls and boys ages 9 and up, were able to become familiar with all areas of diving equipment and basic techniques of dives. Then came the more interesting part during which our kids had a chance to try out for the first time pieces of diving equipment and make their first dive. The results of the course: much excitement and fun. The photographs taken by members of the club speak more than words and remain for all of us as wonderful memories of this unusual experience.



Everyone knows what orienteering is!



"Orienteering is a sport that involves orientation in nature with the help of a map and compass." With these words from our experienced orienteer, Jaša of OK Maslačak, the children began exploring the secrets and beauty of this not-so-famous discipline. The younger kids competed in groups and the older ones in singles. The trail, about half a kilometer long as the crow flies, snaked through the woods and led participants to each of the five checkpoints. All orienteers received a traditional heart-shaped decorative cookie for endurance and athleticism and winners in all categories were awarded medals from Mama Jolika. That day will also be remembered for the great evening entertainment with a DJ and karaoke party, a gift from "Jel-lav."



Pearls of Love and Hope



Out of the desire to offer some new programs to moms, we designed a creative workshop for making jewelry. Ms. Svetlana Lavinić was happy to respond to our call and led mothers in the fine technical secrets of jewelry-making. Everything else, the enthusiasm, creativity, and accuracy, was brought to the workshops by the moms. Word by word, bead by bead, the results were amazing strands created with love through the joy of friendship. Many of the children also happily visited the workshops when they had free time to partake in the cheerful and enthusiastic atmosphere and see the sparkling jewelry pieces.



Friends of “Camp of love and hope made—Ivanjica



Wonderful people who made the “Camp of Love and Hope –2011” an unforgettable experience

Immense gratitude to the volunteers: Josip, Ana, Aleksandra, Dada, Jeca, Dragana, Valentina and Zdravka; volunteers from the Red Cross in Ivanjica; Ms. Ceca and the psychologists Anja, Vukašin and Dejana, who so fantastically designed and implemented fun, creative, psychological and athletic workshops. Thank you also to all employees in the Special Hospital for Rehabilitation in Ivanjica, who were not only wonderful hosts but also wonderful friends.



And in the end, a little bit more memories...



NURDOR, National Association of Parents of Children with Cancer www.nurdor.org.rs is a *nonprofit*, nonpolitical, non-governmental organization whose founders are parents of healed and deceased kids, medical staff from hemato-oncological departments and volunteers who recognised the need for systematic and efficient support for parents of children with cancer. National Association started working in 2004. and it gathers parents and friends of kids from whole Serbia. Basic goal of association is supporting families of children with cancer with a goal to ensure high quality of treatment, rehabilitation and resocialization of ill and healed kids. NURDOR is a member of *International Confederation of Childhood Cancer Parent Organizations* - ICCPO www.iccipo.org which closely cooperate with sa International Society of Paedriatic Oncology, SIOP www.siop.nl.



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