



“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him” Col 3:17

Dear friends and supporters of Peeteli children!

We are sending you a summary of 2021. 20 children received support through the day care, 5-14 children lived in the youth- and pupils home during the year, and 15 children received support from the scholarship program. The centre's educators, teachers and volunteers help children with their homework, and children can develop their Estonian, Russian, English, German and French skills.

We offer social counselling to parents and support children's families with humanitarian and food aid. The center is open 24/7, and all children who need it can come to Peeteli also on weekends, to eat or spend time with friends in a safe environment. In addition to youth self-development groups, 9–11-year-old girls meet once a week with educators to talk about health, behaviour, etiquette, internet dangers, etc. After discussing serious topics, everyone cooks together and plays educational games.

At the end of each week, they make about 600 sandwiches, which our good friends from the Methodist Church distribute on the streets to people in need, with the Word of God. Our children have helped the Estonian Food Bank to collect donations and pack food. In addition, children are a great help to us in our daily work and caring for the territory around the social center.

This year 10 youths completed the Alpha course. It is an evangelistic course which introduces the basics of the Christian faith through series of talks and discussions. After Alpha course 4 youths continued in home group.

From 11.03.2021 to 17.05.2021 there was a state of emergency in Estonia due to Covid 19. All schools were directed to distance learning, and we had to temporarily stop the day care's activity. At that moment, 9 children lived in youth- and pupils home, and all wanted to stay in Peeteli during the state of emergency. Soon, parents and child protection workers asked if we could take more children. Few days later 14 children lived in the social centre. In mid-April centre's 5 employees and 3 children tested positive for Covid 19, and due to it we closed the center for ten days (15-25.04.2021). Luckily it happened during the school holiday and the closure had minimal impact to children's education. In the middle of May we could reopen the day care.

During the state of emergency, we tried to help day care's children through social media, and in some cases, we managed to offer individual study support in a separate room. Nevertheless, the grades of many day care's children became poorer during the distance learning. In May we also had new children sent to Peeteli, who had been away from school for a very long time. With the help of our educators, teachers and volunteers children managed to correct their deficient grades and all, except two, children managed to finish the class. Based on two years' experience, we can say that distance learning is very difficult for many children, and they need support to continue their education. Children's mental health problems have also increased, and it is becoming increasingly clearer how important are trustworthy adults in their lives, to whom they dare to tell their concerns.

In the spring we organized our traditional canoe trip with 40 children and 20 adults and had several other nice outings and camping trips to the nature. It is a joy to see that children like to be in the nature. Before they needed to be encouraged, now children ask when will we go on a trip again. In summer we organized 50 days of camps in Saaremaa. One camp shift lasted 10 days and about 12 children aged 8-18 took part of it. A total of 45 different children participated in camps and 12 of them were in two shifts. We hiked, went swimming, prepared food together, learned to keep ourselves and our equipment dry in the rain, took care of the vegetable garden, and did many other exciting things.

Last year to help preserve nature and the environment we started sorting waste by type to 7 different trash bins. We continued with it also this year in all our camp shifts. Some children who were first time in our camps, were very surprised and a little confused. It all was a whole new world for them, but they learned, and things got better with each day.

Our big joint venture this year was the construction of the birdhouses. We started in spring and continued throughout the summer. All our children, large and small, were involved in it. Also this year our children had the opportunity to grow and eat their own salads and vegetables.

A couple of times before the start of summer camps we went with our children to prepare the camp center for the summer. We cleaned the houses and territory, did painting jobs, mowed grass and bushes, etc. Our road to the camp centre needed to be repaired, and we undertook this work more extensively this year. A local man came to our aid with his tractor, and together with the children we spread more than 15 tons of gravel on the road. We hope the road will now last for many years. At the end of June, we organized another 6-day camp and built additional exits and stairs to the second floors of the camp houses.

At the end of August, we reopened our day care and youth- and pupils home. Also before the start of the school year more than 50 children received the necessary school supplies.

In few months, it will be 25 years since God led us to children in need of help in Kopli Lines in Tallinn. The continuation of this work has been great grace and blessing. We have seen how many children with difficult life destinies have become good people who work in very different professions. Many of them already have their own families and today their children grow up in safe homes where they are loved and supported. It is a great pleasure to see all this.

We are grateful from the bottom of our hearts for all your support and very thankful to God for giving such faithful friends to our centre's children!

We wish you a Merry Christmas, good health, and a lot of God's blessings for the New Year!

The photos attached to the letter give an overview of our lives and activities.

On behalf of all your small and big friends from Peeteli

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In Tallinn, 3 December 2021





Suur tänu toetuse eest! Thank you very much for your support!