TOGETHER UNTIL THE END

Pilot program concentrating on end-of-life care in the Czech Republic
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Total number of projects: 100
Projects that reached the second round: 16
11 projects were supported with a total amount of 7,417,200 CZK

We have received projects that concentrate on various target groups, solutions and themes in the area of end-of-life care in the Czech Republic. We value everyone’s time because their impulses and the description of their needs and intentions helped us profile the concept and priorities of our program. This knowledge and collaboration has helped us work to improve the care for the passing people and their families.

We have decided to prioritize projects concentrating on systemic changes, educating university as well as high school students and the development of new models of services, that have the ability to inspire others in the first pilot year.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped us with the development of the program and all of the people who have devoted their lives to this difficult line of work.

PROFESSIONAL JURY

We have chosen professionals who represent different target groups and professions as well as those who have experience with assisting people in the terminal stages of illness. We have mapped the area of palliative care in the Czech Republic and have total confidence in these professionals’ ability to objectively evaluate different projects and angles while respecting the goal of our program. We would like to thank them for their time and effort in helping to improve end-of-life care in the Czech Republic.

Ondrej Slama

I work as an oncologist specializing in palliative care at the Masaryk Oncology Institute in Brno. I focus on various aspects of palliative medicine (such as relieving pain and the ethics of decision-making for patients in terminal stages) and the implementation of palliative care in the healthcare system. I am a secretary of science for the Czech Society for Palliative Medicine. Note from AVAST Foundation: Ondrej Slama has not taken part in the evaluation of projects from CSPM

Jan Dolínek

I have been part of the development of Czech nonprofit organizations (as a member, teacher, coordinator, project manager and volunteer) especially in the area of social services, crime prevention and community activities. I assist them with strategic planning and improving their skills and competencies in leadership, fundraising, public relations, volunteering, and other related issues. I also work as a consultant for strategic decisions in philanthropy, corporate volunteering, and the wider context of social responsibility.

Sister Angelika from the congregation of merciful sisters of St. Charles Borromeo, Ivana Pintirova

After receiving my pedagogical and caretaker’s degree, I started teaching in Prague and began collaborating with Dr. Svatosova on the foundation and schooling of caregivers for home care. I took my sabbatical year in 2005 and used it to get to know the activities of our sisters abroad in Romania, France, and the Russian Federation. It was a great opportunity to see local home and hospice care. I was also a part of the group of sisters who took care of President Vaclav Havel in his final months. My mother passed away at our home last autumn. She herself took care of three of her relatives and her husband in their final moments. I have also taken care of our older sisters, so I have been in touch with dying people my whole life.

Matej Lejsal

I work as a director of the Sue Ryder Home, and its motto is: “A chance for respectable aging.” I teach at Charles University in Prague in the department of leadership and supervision in social and medical organizations, with a concentration on the systems of social security, financing of social services and the theme of social entrepreneurship. I am a member of the government board for nonprofit organizations, and I take part in the groups for care for seniors and financing of social services, among others, at the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry. I work as a consultant for social entrepreneurship for nonprofits and for financing leadership of social services in transformation.

Katarina Vlčková

I help people in the final stages of their lives and their families as a doctor of the mobile hospice Cesta domu (The Way Home). Together with our multidisciplinary team, we work to create conditions for a dignified passing in a patient’s most natural environment. I know from experience that the quality of palliative care depends more on the human approach of the whole team and its accessibility in an adequate time frame than on financially demanding interventions.

Members of the Board of Directors from the AVAST Foundation took part in the decision-making:

Jarmila Baudisova
Milada Kucérová
Libuse Tomolova

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AVAST FOUNDATION
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>APPLICANT</th>
<th>PROJECT</th>
<th>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Martin Loucka, Ph.D., in collaboration with the Third Medical Faculty of Charles university</td>
<td>Center of Palliative Care</td>
<td>We have supported the creation of the first Center of Palliative Care in Central and Eastern Europe. It is a platform that will improve and develop end-of-life care as well as raise public awareness of the matter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech Society for Palliative Medicine</td>
<td>Support of education of palliative medicine in the range of studies at medical faculties</td>
<td>Implementing palliative medicine into pre-gradual education of the branch of general medicine at medical universities in the Czech Republic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dlouhá cesta, z.s. (Long way)</td>
<td>A course for medical staff and university students that focuses on care for parents who experience a perinatal loss</td>
<td>Dlouhá cesta has long focused on parents who have lost children. Their shared experience can be essential for students and medical professionals in communication with parents.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tři, o.p.s. (Three)</td>
<td>Providing mobile hospice care for terminal patients in Central Bohemia - Mobile Hospice Hořovice</td>
<td>The association stands behind a strong hospice in Čerčany. A new mobile hospice will be funded to cover a region that lacks proper end-of-life care. The cooperation between a regular hospice and a mobile hospice is a great example of functioning regional coverage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospice Association Cesta Domů (The Way Home)</td>
<td>Preparation of pediatric palliative care in the form of a mobile hospice</td>
<td>Palliative care for children doesn’t really exist in the Czech Republic; there are a few organizations, like the Ondrasek hospice in Ostrava. We feel we must support and develop this important and sensitive part of palliative care.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oncology at Masaryk hospital</td>
<td>Mobile hospice care provided by the hospital (pilot program)</td>
<td>One of the most important target groups of the program are medical professionals. We have decided to support the longtime efforts of Jana Dusankova, M.D., from the oncology department to implement the mobile hospice into the hospital’s regular services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Czech Society for Palliative Medicine</td>
<td>Development of the STRATEGY of palliative care and the STANDARDS for mobile palliative care in the Czech Republic</td>
<td>Many respectable doctors stand behind this organisation and have long strived to make systemic changes in palliative care in the country. We believe in the importance of creating unified methodical materials for palliative doctors.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Most k domovu (A Bridge Home) in collaboration with St. Elisabeth’s health and social services high school</td>
<td>A school of life as well as death: preparation and execution of palliative-care education at healthcare high schools</td>
<td>New educational materials will come from the collaboration between the school and the hospice. Many experienced professionals have been invited to help develop materials that could serve healthcare high schools in the country.</td>
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<td>Divadelta</td>
<td>Theater group Forum - Silent Night</td>
<td>The goal of the project is to create a safe space for discussion and experience for children in elementary schools and high schools. The focus of the interactive plays will be the theme of death and the end of life as a natural part of our lives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>General University Hospital</td>
<td>ODDICUS is a prospective observational project for patients who passed away in a tertiary medical facility.</td>
<td>The research will receive feedback from a large number of patients through collaboration with a major hospital. The outcome will bring universal data that will improve the practical application of palliative care.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mobile hospice Ondrasek, o.p.s.</td>
<td>Center of Education</td>
<td>Hospice Ondrasek provides high-quality care both professionally and humanely. Other organisations will benefit from its experience.</td>
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