Stiftelsen BRÖDET

Newsletter March 2023

## NORTH-MACEDONIA

Dear Friends and Supporters,





The nurse is introduced.

During the two pandemic years of 2020 and 2021, *Hand till Hand* ("Hand to Hand"), a school project in Gorgi Sugarev in Bitola in North Macedonia, which SB-Foundation has supported financially in the past, was unable to carry out its mission. The closing down of the education has had several negative consequences, among other things, an increase in teenage girls giving birth. Happily, there is now a major investment in a health and sex education project, which *Hand till Hand* initiated. For the Spring semester



2023, the enterprising project leaders Maria and Thomas Rosengren, together with the school's psychologist, social worker, teachers, and a Roma nursing student have designed a solid health and sex education program, which is now under way. The students come almost exclusively from Romish homes on the slopes of the town where conditions are deplorable. Many lack clean water. So that the student can more readily absorb the information they use song, drawing, hands-on exercises, and stories. The education begins with the very youngest students; the teacher has mounted a picture of hygiene products (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, etc.) that are needed to get ready in the morning before going to school. One student goes up to the blackboard and points to the different products while others copy the image. Subsequently, they all step to the front of the room and hold up their own drawings. Afterwards they each receive a toilet kit with these items. They have to learn in school how everything is used before being allowed to take home the toilet kit. The project encompasses, six classes in grades 2, 3, and 4. During the first lesson, the head of education, the principal, the psychologist, and the nurse were all present [to indicate the importance of the program]. The students like these classes. The program has continued by informing about how to care of oneself during a cold, for example that the body needs extra liquids. Following this, the student will be educated about different parts of the body. The school administration is very happy and grateful for the project, and everyone is working enthusiastically and wholeheartedly, Maria tells us. She also sends a warm greeting to SB Foundation, which pays for 50 percent of the project expenses. Picture: Maria and Thomas at the far right



In turn, SB Foundation thanks all its supporters via us on the Board, *Arne, Elisabeth, Gloria, Ivar, Lena, Roger* 

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