NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION

«BELARUSIAN ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES»

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

Non-governmental organization "Belarusian Association of Assistance to Children and Young People with Disabilities" (NGO "BelAPDIiMI") unites on a voluntary basis more than 3000 families bringing up children and young people with disabilities.

Certificate of registration No 01438, registered by the decision No 254 of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Belarus on 31 May 2006.

OUR GOAL IS

To create for children and young people with disabilities equal with other people opportunities to participate in every field of social life.

WHERE WE WORK

NGO «BelAPDIiMI» comprises 46 regional and 9 Minsk member organizations. These organizational subdivisions can develop their own programmes and participate in the national ones.

NGO "BelAPDIiMI" expresses gratitude to our partners, sponsors, representatives of state structures and departments, public organizations and all indifferent people who are always ready for cooperation. Your help and support are valuable for us. Each your contribution to the common cause is a convincing step towards establishment and development of an inclusive society.

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Activities of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" in 2015

Activities for members of the organization from all over Belarus were organized within the framework of implementation of socially important projects, attraction of sponsorship assistance.

More than **300 families** attended **performance in the farm of Ded Moroz** in the Botanical garden of Minsk city, New Year's discotheque in "RE: Public".

5 excursions for families from regions of Belarus and abroad were organized in May-June 2015:

Excursion to the horse farm "Butsevichy"

Excursion for 40 families to Zhirovichy monastery

International Integration Festival of Creativity "Wings of childhood" to the International Children's Day was held in the park named after M. Gorky which was attended by more than **1000** members of our organization (children and young people with disabilities and their parents) from 40 regions of Belarus and Minsk.

Festival to the Mother's Day at the House of Moscow

On that day mothers who lead primary organizations in different parts of Belarus were given joy, attention, new experience by musicians and actors, cadets of the Military Academy. The activity was held in the cultural and business center "House of Moscow in Minsk". It was attended by more than **200** people: parents bringing up children with disabilities, young people with disabilities, volunteers, artists of leading theaters.

■ 13 primary organizations of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" attended inclusive Festivals of Creativity of Children and Youth **"Special Universe"** to the International Day of Disabled Persons:

in Luninets

in Minsk in the National Art Museum

in Kobrin

■ **5 inclusive workshops** were carried out. The activities were attended by more than 50 children.

Performance of the theater of fashion **"Shkaf"** was prepared: "Abveousli necessary to live!" - bright as the children's dreams, and spontaneous as children themselves. Unique collections of children's fashion clothing which was born within the framework of the project of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" and that was drawn by children, and that was turned in reality by young Belarusian designers.

Awarding of the winners of the contest for the best group of the primary organization in social networks.

An action to the Day of Minsk city was carried out. Young people with disabilities, volunteers took part in a large and bright activity for the whole family and youth – "MINSK OPEN FEST" which was carried out by the agency "South Event" in the park named after 900th anniversary of Minsk (near "Chizhovka Arena") on the City Day.

ORGANIZATION AND CARRYING OUT

recreation, educational activities for members of the organization and specialists

3 shifts of family recreation were organized for **95 people** in children's rehabilitation and recreation center "Nadezda" and Olympic sports complex "Stayky" - families bringing up children and young people with disabilities.

6 outdoor working meetings were carried out in regions on experience sharing.

In Kobrin:

In Smorgon:

In Mogilev:

■ 24 training classes for pupils and students of educational institutions in Minsk, Gomel, Bobruisk and Kobrin were carried out. The classes were attended by about **500** people.

■ 4 training seminars "Use of informational technologies for promotion of projects" for young people with disabilities and their peers without disabilities, members of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" were carried out.

■ Specialists of social centers and young people with disabilities from Brest and Minsk regions came to summer training camp near Minsk at the invitation of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" for 7 days: 26 people from Brest, Baranovichy, Slutsk, Volozhin, Ivatsevichy and employees of the enterprise "ArtIdea" from Minsk.

More than 10 seminars on themes: inclusive education, choice of the life way after the end of the educational route, "Swedish experience of dissemination and implementation of the ideas of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities", "Description and promotion of social services within the framework of state social order" and etc.

2 outdoor working meetings **on issues of employment of people with disabilities** were carried out in the State Institution "Ivatsevichy territorial social service center" and the State Institution "Zhodino territorial social service center".

ACTIVITIES ON EXPERIENCE SHARING

4 round tables were carried out:

- **"People with disabilities in the informational field"** which was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Information, the US diplomatic corps, UNDP, public organizations as well as by artists from the sphere of fashion, theater, cinema, music.

- **"Territory of art - territory of equality"**

- Seminar **"Assistance of families bringing up young people with disabilities"** was held at psychoneurological boarding institution №4 in Minsk.

Trainers were old partners and friends of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" – lecturers of one of the largest higher educational institutions of the Netherlands (University of Applied Sciences Fontys) **Jan Schrurs** and **Joseph Kienhuis.**

Presentation of the project "Sofit" and Swedish cultural organization Share Music Sweden was held at the gallery TUT.by .

2 symposiums on the project "Ordinary people - publication about equal and independent participation of people with disabilities in life of society": **"Accessible education throughout life for people with intellectual disabilities"** and **"From dialogue to partnership in the development of social services for people with intellectual disabilities"** were held in Minsk.

The activity was attended by invited experts from Germany, the Czech Republic, Belarus, Lithuania, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the Russian Federation.

AWARENESS RAISING

Products of social advertising were created: 4 videos; an audio; layout of the billboard. Video and audio are demonstrated on the "Belteleradiocompany" on the Internet.

4 issues of the brochure **"Ordinary People"** were published.

Through materials included in the brochure we want to show hidden opportunities that people with disabilities have: "I can more than you think about me", what educational and developmental opportunities an adult person with disabilities has, and consider influence of people with disabilities on society.

Heroes of the series of brochures "Ordinary People", employees and representatives of primary organizations of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" took an active part in celebration of the **70th anniversary** of the United Nations

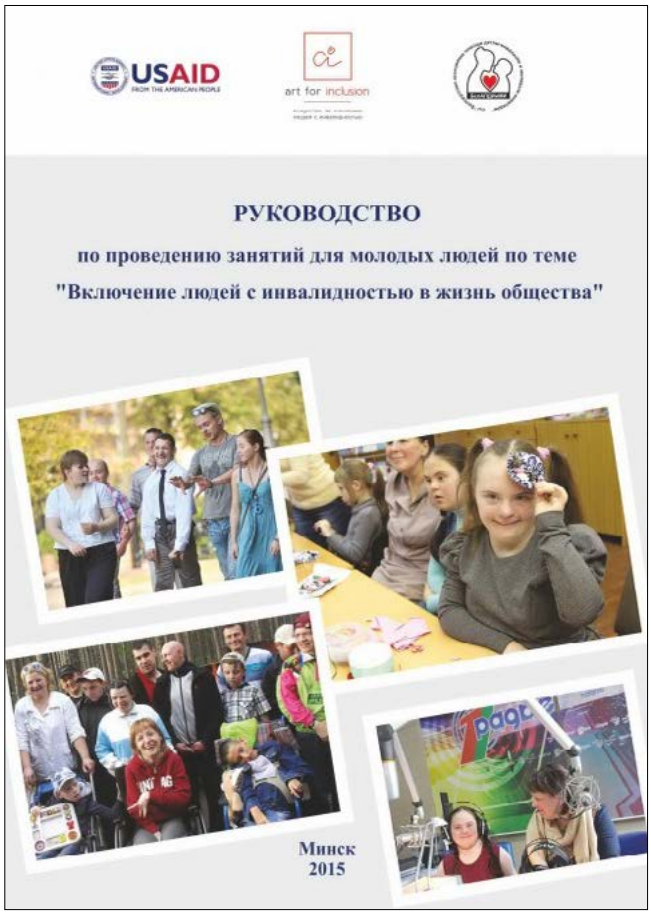
■ 2 photo exhibitions **"Being together and not just side by side", "Life"** were created.

Exhibition "Being together and not just side by side" - are fragments of people's lives which are so rarely seen in the streets of Belarusian cities. They exist in a "parallel universe", in the eternal attempt to defend their right to be equal among equals. All that they need - to live like all, to experience joy, happiness, to love and be loved. Do not feel public blame and pity, but to enter the open doors of society and to be together and not just side by side, and to use the same rights and opportunities as any "full" member of society uses.

■ Guideline "patronage right" of the Federal Ministry of Justice and Consumer Protection (Berlin) was published. It details principles of appointment and activity of the assistant for citizens who by reason of illness, physical or intellectual disabilities require assistance for carrying out their activities; it also considers the distinguishing features of patronage and power of attorney to represent interests.

■ Guideline on carrying out classes for teenagers and young people on the theme "Inclusion of people with disabilities in society" using approach "equal teaches equal" was prepared and published.

Two people - the only in Belarus model with cerebral palsy Angelina Wales and the actor with Down syndrome Andrey Gorbatenko have become the heroes of the exhibition "Life". Stories of Angelina and Andrey are vivid evidence that people with disabilities should not be excluded from the life of society, that disabilities do not prevent from professional development, setting aims and their achieving.

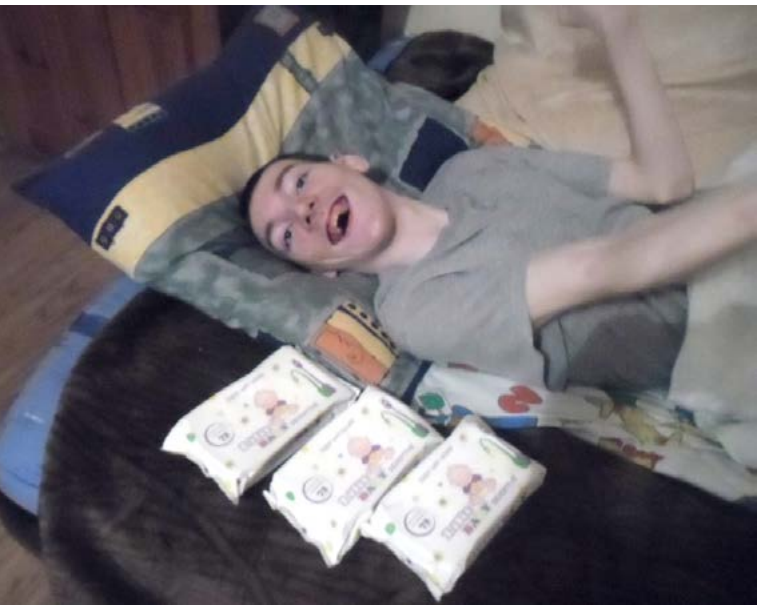


WORK ON ASSISTANCE OF FAMILIES

Every day employees of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" provide comprehensive assistance to families bringing up children with developmental disabilities all over the Republic. Families receive special methodological literature and videos, information about rehabilitation centers, emotional and psychological assistance, legal and other assistance, including humanitarian.

Thanks to sponsorship assistance it was passed to families from different regions of the country: 23 plaids, 46 umbrellas, 20 radio sets, tableware (8 sets), 3 smartphones, stationery, sports equipment, etc..

Thanks to financial assistance of the Swedish charitable organization "Star of Hope" 39 sets of bed linen were purchased for families bringing up children and young people with disabilities.



Thanks to assistance of charitable organization "Caritas Linz" (Austria) modern equipment for the center in Kobrin which is visited by children and young people with severe disabilities was purchased. A minibus with an autolift designed for two wheelchairs, ramps, handrails were purchased on the sponsorship money. The water closet was renovated for convenience of people with disabilities.

5 projects were implemented in 2015:

• **"Continuation of dissemination and application of the Convention ideas "On the rights of persons with disabilities"** with assistance of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).
Aim: promotion of ideas of equal participation, accessibility and inclusion in society of children and young people with disabilities, based on values and provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

• **"Your chance"** with assistance of the German Foundation "Bread for the World" – Protestant Development Service.
Aim: inclusion of people with disabilities into society through expanding of opportunities for their employment and raising public awareness about rights of people with disabilities for independent life.

• **"Equal opportunities - way to success"** with assistance of informational and educational institution "New Eurasia".
Aim: strengthening of the organizational capacity of NGO "BelAPDIiMI" by activating members of primary organizations (PO), planning activities in PO, preparation of regional and national project proposals with further implementation.

• **"Art for inclusion of people with disabilities"** with assistance of the US Agency for International Development.
Aim: forming positive attitude towards people with disabilities among young people aged 16 to 25 years old through cultural, educational and information campaigns in the Republic of Belarus.

• **"Sofit"** in cooperation with the Swedish cultural organization «Share Music Sweden».
Aim: to make visible the potential of people regardless of their abilities and to contribute to changing social norms. "Sofit" is aimed at raising the level of qualification and knowledge about inclusive methods of work.

• **"Ordinary People - publication about equal and independent participation of people with disabilities in social life"** with assistance of the Belarusian Support Programme implemented by Dortmund International Educational Center (IBB Dortmund) on behalf of the Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Society for International Cooperation (GIZ).

More detailed information about the activities is available on the website
www.belapdi.org