

U. S. Steel's Volunteer Days

Steelmakers help 11 non-profit organizations in two days



On May 18 – 19, 2012, the corporate volunteer event named U. S. Steel for Košice was held for the sixth time, during which the employees of the largest company in Eastern Slovakia helped eleven Košice organizations with their public-benefit activities.

The event started on Friday morning with the “Steelmakers’ Drop of Blood” call for blood-donors at the Hematology and Transfusion Department of Košice - Šaca Hospital. People giving blood for the first time as well as long-term donors were all sure that they could help sick people in this way. Throughout Friday and Saturday, company employees brought in superfluous summer clothing, towels and bed linen, as well as non-perishable food for children and adults residing at various facilities run by the Košice Archdiocesan Charity and at the Oasis of Hope Charity House in Bernátovce. Great organizational help with the collection was provided by retired steelmakers from the Autumn of Life civic association.

On Saturday a group of women active within the USSK Women’s Network met at the Uralská Street Foster Home in Košice. They helped with fence painting, and work in the outdoor and indoor gardens. Elena Petrášková, USSK Vice President and Women’s Network Chairman, as

well as Mary Rintoul, the wife of the company President, stated jointly that “helping the foster home during the Volunteer Days was a natural continuation of the care we provide during the whole year”. In addition to tutoring children in Slovak language, math, physics and English, they also include children in many sporting, cultural and social corporate events.

Dozens of volunteers assisted several other non-profit organizations as well. At the Rubikon Autistic Center in Myslava, steelmakers helped out for the third year. They helped with the finalization of the children’s playground, fence renovation, and painting the school windows. At the Crisis Intervention Center for children in Čaňa they provided a helping hand with construction of sandpit fencing, bench reconstruction, room and fence painting. The Slovak Union for the Blind and Partially Sighted appreciated mainly safety painting of stairways, handrails and doorframes, which gives disabled people better indoor orientation.

At the Botanical Gardens steelmakers painted benches and arbours, and worked in the gardens and greenhouses. Those keen on animals could work on reconstructing the exercising ground and cutting grass and wood at the Haniska Animal Shelter, and others at the Zoo renovated the stables with cleaning and painting. Sporting people chose to help the Metropol Ski Club with maintaining the cross-country skiing track and constructing drains at Kojšovská Hoľa Sports Resort.

This year again about 500 employees of U. S. Steel Košice, its subsidiaries and partner institutions volunteered their assistance. Lawyers together with maintenance workers, accountants together with environmentalists, crane operators together with researchers worked side by side for a good purpose. This two-day event was the culmination of the volunteer activities which the steel company organizes throughout the year. Some of the employees help as instructors

within educational programs for secondary school students, while others participate as active volunteers in charitable fundraising and collections, or in organizing community life in this region. “For me volunteering is a natural part of corporate responsibility to the community. So I am so proud that each year hundreds of our employees do not hesitate to provide altruistic help in their free time and spread this humanitarian concept among their children and other family members,” commented company President David J. Rintoul on the 6th U. S. Steel Volunteer Days.



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