**PRESS RELEASE**

**Velyky Bychkiv village, 27 June 2014**

**A new star shines over the village of V. Bychkiv**

*Official Opening of the newly established Kindergarten No5 “Zirochka” was held in V. Bychkiv village, Rakhivskyi district, Zakarpatska oblast Ukraine on the 27th of June 2014*

Following reconstruction of the former pioneer camp the village has finally received one more so urgently needed kindergarten for children of the local community. The costs over 170,000.00 Euro covering reconstruction works, purchase of furniture, inventory and equipment have been co-financed by Project HUSKROUA/1001/044 “Children – Our Future: the New Wave in Pre-school Education of the Carpathian Region” of the ENPI CBC Programme Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine as well as budgets of the project partners, Rakhivskyi District Council and Administration, Village Council of Velykyy Bychkiv and local businesses. This project is a real best practice of public-private partnership involving civil society organizations from the border regions, local authorities and business as well as the strong support of the European Union through its CBC instruments. The overall goal of the project is to improve the quality of preschool education in the multinational border regions through development of cross-border networks of preschool institutions in the Carpathian region.

The much-anticipated kindergarten is designed for 50 children. The first multi-age group for children from 4 to 6 years old will start working on the 1st of July 2014 (35 children), while the second – for kids of three (15 children) will be launched on the 1st of August 2014.

Besides and official part the programme of the event coinciding with celebration of the Constitution Day included performances of local folk and children groups, as for instance VIA Synyogory and singer Miroslava Dyakunets.

The guests were hosted by the future owners of the newly established kindergarten the Village Council and Mayor of Velyky Bychkiv Odanka Zelenko as well as the Project Lead Partner NGO “Zirochka”.

The Day has become a real gala day for children with various competitions, awards, entertainment and fun programmes presented by talented and vivid team members of Kindergarten No5 “Zhuravlyk” from Uzhhorod assisted by the staff of the newly established kindergarten. Celebrations also involved managers and kindergarteners of other preschool institutions from the village of Velyky Bychkiv (No1, 3 and 4) and Uzhhorod (No21 “Lastovicha”, No42 “Dzhereltse”). The great day for children was finalized by a nice cake and free entertainments in the centre of the village.

There were representatives of the National Deputy to Verkhovna Rada Vasil Petyovka, deputies of the Village Council of V. Bychkiv, Head of Rakhivskyi district Administration Irina Verbitska, representatives of the Department of Education of Uzhhorod Municipal Council, representatives of Rakhivskyi District Council and Administration, representatives of the Project partners from the Association of Local Development “Ivan Krevan” (Maramures county, Romania) and the Agency of Local Development and Information Resources “Europolis” (Uzhhorod) among the invited guests.
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