

Faith and Community: A Dialogue Final Report (sample)

Each recipient of the grant has to submit adequate final report, 2 - 8 pages in length, before January 2nd, 2009, at latest. This report helps IREX to promote the program and to report back to the US State Department that finances this program. Therefore, please describe in detail successes and achievements of your project. Do not forget to enclose the copies of any publication that resulted from your project, as well as the articles printed in newspapers, conference materials, and other similar products, as soon as you prepare them. The recipient of the small grant through Faith and Community program who does not submit the adequate final report to IREX will not receive the last 20% of the grant and will not be enabled to receive grant from IREX in the future.

General Information

A. Name of the Recipient	MINVA HASIĆ
B. State	BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
C. Project Title	IT TAKES TWO FOR DIALOGUE
D. Period	6 MONTHS
E. Financial Awards	1000 \$
F. Your Contribution	1000\$
G. Money spent (sum of the award and your contribution)	2000\$

About the project:

- Describe the original project plan.

Plan of the project was to relate young people who will be jointly engaged in preparing and performing the show, and who will invest communal forces and start working and developing together. The goal of this performance is to present, in a humorous way, the present difficult situation in municipality Stolac which used to be one of the very developed municipalities in B&H and which was defeated after the war, while the human relations were worsened at the same time.

Result of this nightmare is bad relations among citizens, two schools under the same roof (program in Bosnian and in Croatian language).

By this performance, we wanted to show how young people can work together and find solutions in dialogue through tolerance and respect for each other, while at the same time having good relations among themselves as neighbors and through mutual understanding.

- Please describe and explain the result of the project and future plans.

Results of the project are very effective because this group of young people, after completing the performance, found interest and affirmed itself, by preparing new performances and mini-films on which they will work, in the future.

Stolac, as the city in which there are many problems, and where relations among people are destroyed, gives chance to young and creative people to express their feelings, and their opinions and represent them in public.

Topic and scenario that were prepared by young people talk about the tension in human relations in city of Stolac, and circumstances in which we live.

This performance is based on the real event in the city of Stolac after the football game between Croatia and Turkey and questions how it affects young people and how the young can find joint interests. The performance clearly points what unites them, and what things divide them, how to behave in certain situations and how to find the communal way through dialogue.

The girl, who reads the messages in the performance, wants to raise the consciousness of the audience and to draw a conclusion out of each chapter in performance.

Representing in this way gives to the audience, the image of young people who are not burdened with nationalisms and who wish to create better future, and to direct their energy and knowledge towards positive things.

Since the plans of this group of young people are to develop further, and at the moment, they make one wider circle of the young, who prepare the shows for 8th of March, Women's Day, and they will be sent as supplement and continuation of this program.

Program criteria

- How and in which way your project promoted the goals of the Faith and Community program?

Through the project, and at the very beginning of performance, we presented how it was created, as well as the program itself, and we introduced the audience to the program in which we participated. Also, in radio broadcast and reports for local radio, we always emphasized name of the donor and sponsor of activities and goals of the program.

- Did you use in implementation of your project, the knowledge and ideas that you received while in the States?

Yes ideas and similar activities that we have seen in the States, were used in our project.

- How this project contributed to your professional development?

This was the amateur show-mini film that we prepared and we are satisfied and have intention to further develop and improve, in this sense. We met with a few directors from B&H who watched our performance and said that this is the good beginning for developing more engagements of these young people. Therefore we can say that, in the future, we will continue with these and similar activities.

Results

- Who has benefits from your project and in which way?

The benefits from your project were gained by young people who were involved in the program, and, as well, by a wider community that watched the performance, by young people who want to influence the change in the consciousness of those charged with nationalism and to perceive their plans and ideologies that incite hatred.

- How many people were influenced by your project?

Project directly influenced 5 young people involved in the project and 10 people who were working indirectly on program activities and approximately 100 people who watched the performance. We emphasize that the performance-film will be further showed in all adequate situations, and that it will contribute to creation of similar performances and topics, all with the goal of making people closer to each other and developing better relations among them.

- Write down the list of publications, articles, and the similar that represent the result of your project.

DVD – with recorded material of performance It Takes two for Dialogue, article and setting on the webpage of the project, announcement on regular radio Stolac www.obicanradiostolac, www.orhideja.org on the webpage of Orhideja.

- Enlist the potential contacts that could be created thanks to your project.

Contacts that could be established, thanks to our project are with young people, who are in high schools and who want to work on these programs, and we can send to you, the list of the names and e mail addresses later.

What did you learn

- Explain what the success of your project was and what you could do in order to make your project even more successful.

The success of the project was in engaging young people, making them interested in cooperation, working out scenario and performance for the first time, as amateurs, and the sole fact that they want to work on improving these activities. How the project could have been even better was by substitute of the lack of professional equipment for work, a bit more exercise with the children-actors who humbly approached the whole project, but this is understandable, since for the first time, we were involved in filming and getting roles.

Conclusion

- What would be your conclusion about the project and your opinion of the same?

Our conclusion is that the first part of the project was successfully completed, and that it will continue, and some work has already been done on preparing the new performance, and realizing the goal that was set before them and that is: opening dialogue among young and working on joint activities.

I think that we should support these and similar projects and give encouragement to young people to prove that they work on changing conscience of everyone.

This is an opportunity for me to thank to all participants in the program Faith and Community in the States and in B&H, to organizations IREX, IMIC, USA Embassy and all people who warmly hosted us during the stay in their wonderful homeland. I really enjoyed each moment spent in the States and I want such programs to be continued and to involve young people from environments we originate from, therefore the environments where human relations are destroyed, and those in which nothing will ever be changed. This project will help them grasp their visions, gather the energy and force for further work, because there always will be the people who will support good ideas and who will join you, no matter how small activities are done, they will contribute to establishing great and long-lasting aims.

Please send your final report to the address: ohvanwely@irex.org with the following information "Last name, name- Faith and Community Small Grant Award, First Name – FACAD Follow-On Grant Report".