



FUNDACJA BANKU
Millennium

2021 REPORT

ANNUAL SUMMARY
of Bank Millennium
Foundation Activities



WELCOME TO THE REAL WORLD

2020, due to the pandemic, was the period of solely virtual activity of the Foundation. **In 2021, we cautiously returned to the real world – the real kindergartens, full-of-life pre-schoolers and Millennium employees making their mark in community work.** In 2021, the mission activity of the Foundation was based on two pillars. We invested our good energy in yet another edition of the employee volunteering project #WElistenWESupport (#słuchaMYwspieraMY) and continuation of the educational programme “Financial ABCs” (“Finansowy Elementarz”).

Awarding grants for execution of social campaigns, we encourage you to act for the benefit of local projects. **Also this year's edition of #słuchaMYwspieraMY programme was addressed to local communities, organisations**

and private individuals. Despite the month-on-month improvement of the consumer sentiment index surveyed by GUS¹, in June 2021, 13.5 per cent of the respondents claimed that the epidemic constituted a big threat to their personal finances. This confirms that as a result of the pandemic, a large part of Polish society has found itself in a difficult situation and our actions in #słuchaMYwspieraMY may meet the real needs of specific individuals and organizations.





The results of the survey commissioned by the Foundation² and the experience of the pandemic period, which showed that **learning the right financial behaviour from an early age is of great importance for children**, both confirm the rationale behind our educational programs. In 2021, we returned with them to kindergartens, where we conducted 200 “Financial ABCs” workshops, maintaining the sanitary regime. Created last year, our online educational materials for children and parents available on the Foundation’s website and social media channels, proved to be helpful.

¹ Data source GUS (Central Statistical Office), Consumer boom, June 2021.

² The survey was carried out by GfK institute for Bank Millennium Foundation in May 2020 on a national sample of 1000 parents of children aged 3-7, with use of CAWI methodology.



WHAT'S NEW

IN POLISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES INSTITUTE OF BIO-ORGANIC CHEMISTRY



In 2020, the Bank Millennium Foundation and Bank Millennium became involved in fighting the coronavirus, donating PLN 500,000 to the Polish Academy of Sciences Institute of Bio-organic Chemistry (ICHB PAN) in Poznań, which

developed the first Polish SARS-CoV-2 tests. **ICHB PAN was the first research unit in Poland to set up a COVID-19 diagnostics lab.** The prototype of the test, based exclusively on Polish reagents, was developed after two weeks of intensive work and then entered mass production, while the support of i.a. the Bank Millennium Foundation, allowed further research into more sensitive generations of the test.

A year from the start of this cooperation, in response to the diagnostic difficulties in Wielkopolska, an idea was born to create a generally accessible molecular diagnostics laboratory – PANgen, which was opened in May 2021. The laboratory, which thanks to the generosity of the sponsors has been furnished with excellent equipment, will serve the broadly understood medical

diagnostics to make the best use of technology, instruments, and experience of the people from the Viral Support Group. **Due to our involvement, we can readily refer to the PANgen as a joint project of ICHB PAN and the Foundation.**



FINANCIAL ABCs ONLINE



Since 2016, the Bank Millennium Foundation has been running the proprietary kids' financial education programme under the name "Financial ABCs". Last year, during the pandemic, the Foundation continued its project online, creating a series of state-of-the-art online educational materials.

Printed textbooks-booklets assumed the attractive form of animated videos and were available in their multimedia versions on the Foundation's YouTube channel. Also, a new fourth textbook on Web security was created, featuring secure online banking procedures.

For pre-schoolers, parents and all interested parties, other online educational materials proved to be helpful - a guide for parents "How to teach children finance" with tips on educating the youngest and interviews with Ms. Małgorzata Chojak PhD. from the Maria Curie Skłodowska University in Lublin on the same topic.



MR. SEBASTIAN AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES

"FINANCIAL ABCs" EPISODE 4 ON WEB SECURITY

In 2020, the fourth part of the textbook-booklet and the fourth episode of the animated video with Mr. Sebastian were created, explaining in simple terms the basics of the world of finance to kids. In this episode of Mr. Sebastian's adventures, children could learn, among other things, that you can pay for your ice cream not only in cash, and you can also have your payment card on your phone. As the title character said – "Now you can use your mobile, and I'm not joking, the same way you use your card! You can do all banking operations in it – transfer money, make savings."

Mr. Sebastian's story also contained some tips on online security. To ensure online banking security, we should follow several rules. For pre-school children, four of them are

the easiest to understand. By the way, we can check to what extent we ourselves use them in everyday life.

- protect access to your computer, tablet or mobile with a password (tell it to your parents only),
- do not give your personal information to anyone (for instance, your surname, address) and do not post your photographs online,
- use only a trusted network (avoid connecting to a public network e.g. in a cafe) according to rules defined with your parents,
- often check with your parents whether the computer, tablet or phone are free from viruses; talk to your parents about what you were doing online on a particular day.

The booklet "Mr. Sebastian and new technologies" has been prepared and will be introduced to the program of workshops conducted in kindergartens, and in the multimedia version it is still available on the Foundation's YouTube channel.



FINANCIAL ABCs LIVE

MORE THAN 5 000 PRE-SCHOOLERS MET MR. SEBASTIAN

In this year's seventh edition of the project, we conducted 200 workshops, visiting 54 kindergartens.

Despite the cold and autumn weather (the workshops took place in November and December), we visited the following cities: Warsaw, Pruszcz Gdański, Chmielno, Żółwin, Pilchowice, Michałowice, Ełk, Obrowo, Bydgoszcz, Żabia Wola, Wrocław, Miechucino, Kraków, Jugów, Szczytno, Poznań, Piaseczno, Kraków, Radomierzyce, Gdańsk, Wejherowo, Piotrowice n. Nałęczów, Ożarów Mazowiecki, Rotmanka, Radzymin.

We met more than 5 thousand pre-schoolers aged 3 to 6 years. In the case of toddlers, the first finance lesson under the supervision of Mr. Sebastian lasted no more than 30 minutes, and in older groups about one hour. The

institutions in the project received the workshops with enthusiasm, and the scenario of the meetings is still a good response to the educational needs of children of pre-school and early school age.



The observation has demonstrated that the pandemic period has further strengthened the workshops' message.

The challenges posed to families in terms of changes on the labour market, managing the household budgets and flexible response to changes are still reflected in our project. As the meetings were held during the COVID-19 pandemic, a special epidemiological and sanitary procedure was developed before the start of the activities, and all the meetings were carried out with sanitary guidelines in mind. This year, the pre-schoolers were visited by Mr. Sebastian - a mascot. Animators staged theatre performances using toys. When reading the book, they illustrated its content with the mascot.

#słuchaMYwspieraMY

A UNIQUE VOLUNTEER ACTION, MANY POSITIVE SURPRISES



It is very important for us to involve employees in social actions. To enable them to implement their own volunteer ideas, we launch competitions in which we award grants for the execution of interesting and useful charity projects. In 2021, we refreshed the formula

of this type of activities. This year's employee volunteering program **#słuchaMYwspieraMY** (**#WElistenWEsupport**) in the "two in one" formula is a grant competition for a volunteer project launched by our employees for the benefit of local communities. It is important that these are initiatives of employees carried out by themselves - from the idea and its execution to settlement and promotion in the form of an article, photographic report or a video. In the case of assistance to individuals, the Foundation evaluated the change in the life situation of a given person, and in the case of group beneficiaries - the impact of the action on the local community.



#słuchaMYwspieraMY



#słuchaMYwspieraMY

Eligible to participate in the competition for grants up to PLN 4,900 gross were projects involving at least two employees of the Bank Millennium Group or the Bank's partner branches.

What counted was not merely the idea, but also the number of volunteers and long-term impact of the activity on the life of the local community. Mate-

rial assistance alone or the provision of in-kind gifts to selected beneficiaries was not enough. What counted was commitment, time spent helping and volunteers' own work contribution.



Effect? In 2021, we awarded grants to 21 Project Leaders. 139 volunteers, their family members and friends took part in the actions. Support was provided to 2638 beneficiaries (small and large) –

charges of social institutions (i.e. orphanages), people with disabilities, pre-schoolers, pupils, students of integration and special classes, seniors. We also helped individuals. In addition to empathy, they received from us a lot of useful surprises and good energy. Every smallest gesture and object handed over



had been carefully thought out and well chosen as the volunteers analysed very thoroughly the stories and circumstances in which the people they decided to help found themselves.

WE do not wait. WE - listen and support!

#słuchaMYwspieraMY

SELECTED PROJECTS

One of the projects was organization of a trip around Warsaw for the Family Children's Home in Kiedosy. Thanks to our volunteers, the charges of the centre visited Warsaw for the first time in their lives and saw the Warsaw "Mermaid".



Volunteers in Gdańsk supported and organized "Saturday" spatial painting in a centre of the Non-Public Institutions Complex at the Polish Association of People with Intellectual Disabilities. They took their families and friends with them, and in no time at all, they renovated two corridors of a building of importance for the beneficiaries.



Another project was dedicated to persons in the homelessness crisis. In cooperation with the "Serve Tea" Foundation, our volunteers prepared meals, Christmas gift parcels, and warm tea and distributed them to those in need in front of the Warsaw Central Station. The activities of the volunteers remind us that there are other people next to us, often in need. It is worth reaching out to them with a helping hand and sharing the good.

All projects deserve separate, extensive descriptions that will soon be available on the Bank Millennium Foundation website at www.bankmillennium.pl.

#słuchaMYwspieraMY

THIS YEAR'S PROJECTS AND PEOPLE BEHIND THEM

- **Monika Fabiś-Samułska** – Leader of the project for Primary School No. 3 in Mogilno – purchase of teaching aids (books and audio equipment) and a multifunctional colour printing machine, and an art competition for children with disabilities.
- **Aleksandra Czerwińska** – Leader of the project for the Education and Up-bringing Team in Kołbudy – construction of a meteorological station and a meteorological garden for children.
- **Izabela Całkiewicz** – Leader of the project for the Charges of the "Give Tea" Foundation – people in the homelessness crisis – organization of the aid day, preparation of sandwiches, cakes, Christmas gift parcels and warm tea, and handing them over to the people in the vicinity of the Warsaw Central Station.
- **Joanna Piszcz** - Leader of the project for the Education and Up-bringing Team in Lublewo Gdańskie - a small, rural school attended by 108 pupils - organization of a sports day and purchase of sports equipment.
- **Edyta Cierech** - Leader of the project for the School Complex No. 1 in Jugów - organization of corrective gymnastics and furnishing the sports hall with the necessary equipment and accessories (i.e. gym mattresses and ladders), and Leader of the project for the PIAST Football Academy in Nowa Ruda - organization of sports activities and a football tournament for children aged 4-10 combined with a Christmas meeting and "St. Nicholas' Day".
- **Katarzyna Gryśka** - Leader of the project for the Family Children's Home in Kiedosy - funding a Christmas gift combined with a cognitive, relaxing and tourist component for children - a trip around Warsaw.
- **Marcin Juś** – Leader of the project for the Orphanage "Dworek" in Dąbrowica and "Nowy Dom" in Przybysławice – organization of a Christmas Eve meeting with Santa Claus.
- **Monika Jaworek** - Leader of the project for Kindergarten No. 193 in Warsaw - organization of a meeting devoted to sensory integration with workshops for children and purchase of cooking accessories for the kids.
- **Ewelina Składanek** - Leader of the project for the protagonists of the documentary film "Bukolika", winner of the 18th Millennium

Docs Festival Against Gravity – assistance for women in a small, Mazovian village. Visiting, buying fuel for the winter and bicycles for staying in touch with others, and the Leader of the project for the Chance Aid Association – organization of a Rehabilitation Room and Occupational Therapy Workshops for people with disabilities in Stary Lubiejów and a Christmas meeting.

- **Elżbieta Ważna** - Leader of the project for the Taekwondo Club in Nowa Ruda - an amateur sports team - organization of a St. Nicholas' Day tournament for children and youth aged 5-18 to promote active life style after the difficult period of the pandemic.
- **Monika Jurków-Kwiatkowska** - Leader of the project for the Family Children's Home in Miłowie - organization of a Christmas meeting featuring Santa Claus and handing out parcels with sweets, spending the day together having fun and playing team games.

- **Beata Sieniawska** - Leader of the project for the Non-Public Institutions Complex at the Polish Association of People with Intellectual Disabilities in Gdańsk - painting two corridors of the facility and purchasing LED lamps for the ceilings.
- **Aleksandra Jackiewicz** - Leader of the project for Seniors from the day-care home and Kindergarten No. 1 in Skierniewice - organization of two Christmas meetings, where children prepared Christmas treats and decorations for lonely seniors, and purchase of hygiene and food products for seniors.
- **Kamil Lewczuk** – Leader of the project for the Beginning of the World Foundation – building a "room of silence" for the charges of the centre who experience panic and aggression attacks - an aid in controlling emotions and regaining balance.
- **Sylwia Gałązka** - Leader of the project for the Care and Educational Facility No. 2 in Dzie-

kanów Leśny - finishing the common room, purchasing equipment and cleaning products, including a multifunctional vacuum cleaner and cleaning the surface area of the facility.

- **Aleksandra Tobiasz** - Leader of the project for the PogadajMY Foundation - a therapeutic centre for children with disabilities and communication disorders (Down syndrome, cerebral palsy, alalia, aphasia, hearing disorders) - organization of the Christmas and New Year's meeting "Christmas Talk" along with animations and competitions for children, group decorating of gingerbread and painting.
- **Anna Pokorska** - Leader of the project for a person who requires constant rehabilitation following a serious illness - purchase of medicines and necessary resources, participation in speech therapy classes at home and organization of joint (!) regular swimming pool classes.

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank all Millennium employees for supporting the Foundation's endeavours, be it in the real or virtual world.

In particular, we would like to thank all the volunteers, jurors, Leaders of the #słuchaMYwspieraMY project, their family members, friends and all those who entered their projects in this edition of the program, as well as Jakub Miliński and Aleksandra Tobiasz, the program organizers. **You are great!**

We would also like to thank the fearless helpers of Mr. Sebastian in the "Financial ABCs" programme - Sylwia Pietrzyk for organization and logistics, Anna Kozon and Celina Ciołek for efficient sending of the materials to kindergartens, and Mariusz Malinowski, Krzysztof Zamielski and Ania Strykowska for preparing the programme kits. **Kudos!**

See you in 2022!

Management Board of the Foundation
Iwona Jarzębska
Beata Krupińska
Paulina Wołosz-Sitarek

