



**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**

ROOTS

and

WINGS

ROOTS & WINGS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The R&WF has managed to continue to generate strong results despite an increasingly challenging political and social environment for the Hungarian non-profit sector.

This hostile, uncertain environment has been shaped by the government's negative approach to non-government organisations (NGOs), especially those with funding from abroad. As a result, an atmosphere of fear persists, which undermines the cohesiveness of communities and the efforts and health of civil society and NGOs.

Against this troubling backdrop, however — and with stronger board involvement than previously — in 2018, the R&WF maintained its support for Hungarian community foundations, achieved key milestones, and learned valuable lessons to improve its approach in 2019. In addition to its core work supporting community foundations in Hungary, the R&WF enlarged its outreach by expanding a programme (Live Crowdfunding) as well as developing a new programme (Revitalising Small Towns).

The Community Foundation Support Programme (CFSP) continued to support three existing community foundations and assisted one new group to start a community foundation. As shown by data, Hungarian community foundations are:

- credible, locally supported organisations;
- strengthening local trust and identity;
- providing visibility and credibility for local people and issues; and
- inspiring people to find joy in community work.

The CFSP opened its second round to identify groups wanting to start new community foundations, which yielded a disappointing number of formal applications. This prompted a deep, thorough review that identified shortcomings and many lessons that are now being used to improve engagement. A new approach is being launched in March 2019, to make our support more flexible and easily accessed.

An important achievement in 2018 was the November conference, 'Hungary Uncovered', which fostered cooperation and forward thinking by bringing together many different players from across the civil society ecosystem: community foundation trustees, staff, donors, volunteers, academics, thinkers, influencers, young professionals, and people from Hungary and abroad who are interested in community foundations. This conference challenged participants to explore their perceptions of Hungary by learning about important, underreported trends and issues (such as internal migration and women's rights), to hear how immigrants view the country, as well as to learn more about how NGOs and communities are responding to challenges. The R&WF grew its second programme area, **Promoting Giving Circles**. The highlight was our first-ever crowdfunding event in March, where each community foundation made presentations of key projects. Following this, with minor assistance from the R&WF, two further events were held by Ferencváros Community Foundation in Budapest and Térerő Community Foundation for Our City (in Miskolc).

In addition, the R&WF had the pleasure of hosting guests from The Funding Network (TFN) in London, who participated in the event and met with host organisations and NGO experts. This engagement was inspiring and thought provoking. The R&WF developed a new programme, **Revitalising Small Towns**. Hungarian small towns (population between 10,000 and 50,000) and rural areas are poorer, more inward looking and more vulnerable to propaganda that undermines civil society and cohesiveness. This programme will enable local leaders and NGOs to play a greater role in revitalising their communities; design new approaches to local development; and raise awareness of resources for development at the local and national levels. While at varying stages, the three programmes are seen as equally important, and the intention is to continue to develop all three areas in 2019.

As of the end of 2018, the R&WF is fortunate to have a strong financial position. Both national and international donors have provided enough space to explore different approaches, and to sustainably grow. We see clear areas for development and improvement in 2019. The worsening environment and our mission to support communities require further strengthening of the foundation.

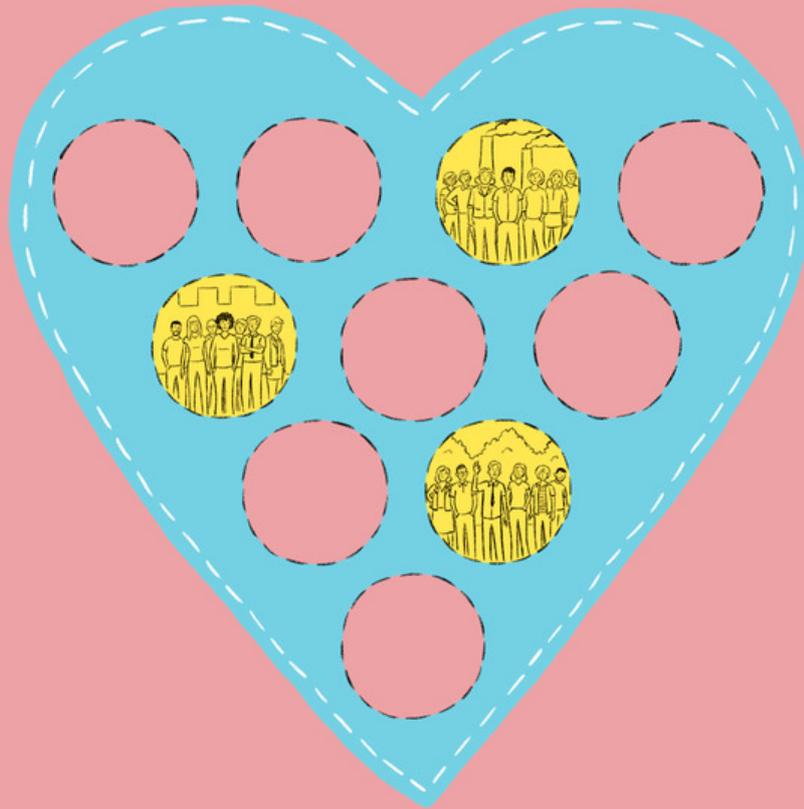
This task is made more complex and imperative by our programmatic expansion. Therefore, key priorities for the year ahead include: putting more emphasis on sharpening our brand and public profile, strengthening our rootedness by raising financial and pro bono support in Hungary, and hiring new staff.



Tamás Scaurszki
Chair of the Board
Roots & Wings Foundation



THERE'S ALWAYS A PLACE
IN OUR HEART



We love our work for
community foundations.

We supported three Hungarian community foundations in 2018. They are unique, credible, locally supported organisations strengthening local trust and identity. Providing visibility and credibility for local people and issues they inspire people to find joy in community work.

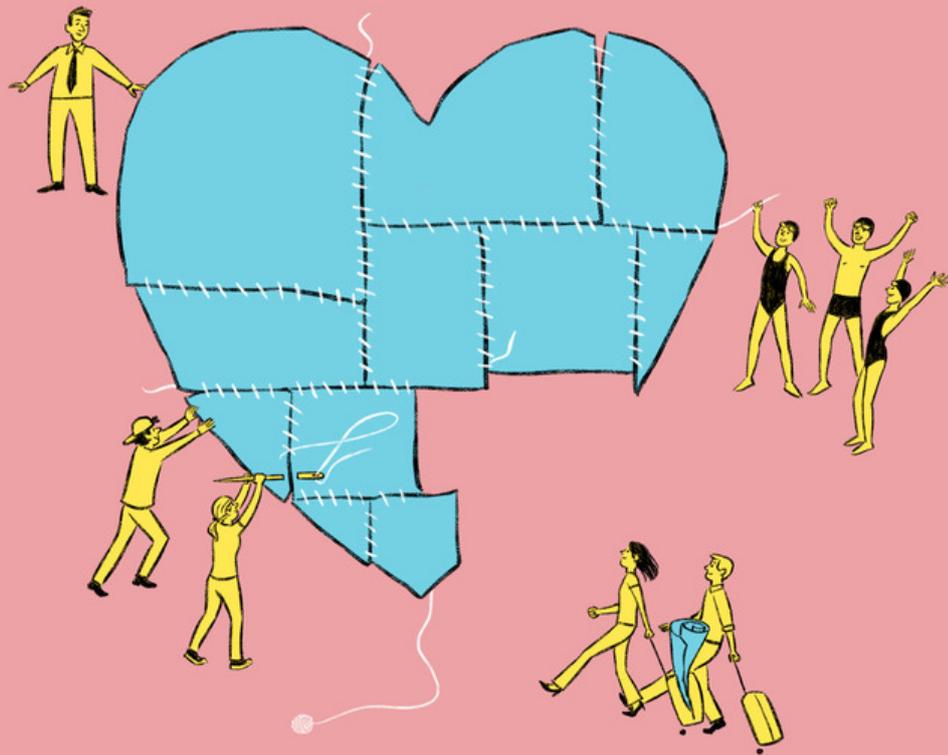
WHAT'S YOUR
SUPERPOWER?



We're looking for
fellow heroes!

In 2018 we found one excellent group to start a community foundation. We believe there are more; and we are determined to find and support them in the future.

HAVE YOU GOT
SOMETHING TO ADD?



We can always make
a bit of room for new
supporters.

Raising funds in Hungary is more than just getting cash in: it is feeling the support and care of our people. Taking it to scale is a challenge! And an opportunity to match the generous financial support we receive from abroad.

WE CAN MANAGE MORE THAN
ONE AT A TIME!



New opportunities for
communities on the
horizon!

Thanks to the experience gained with community foundations, we have two new programmes. Our country needs strong and cohesive communities built on their creativity and skills. It is our ambition to provide the right mechanisms and institutions.



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