



# HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HUNGARY

**SUMMARY OF OUR WORK AND MAIN  
ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024**

**WE BUILD STRENGTH, STABILITY, AND  
SELF RELIANCE THROUGH SHELTER**

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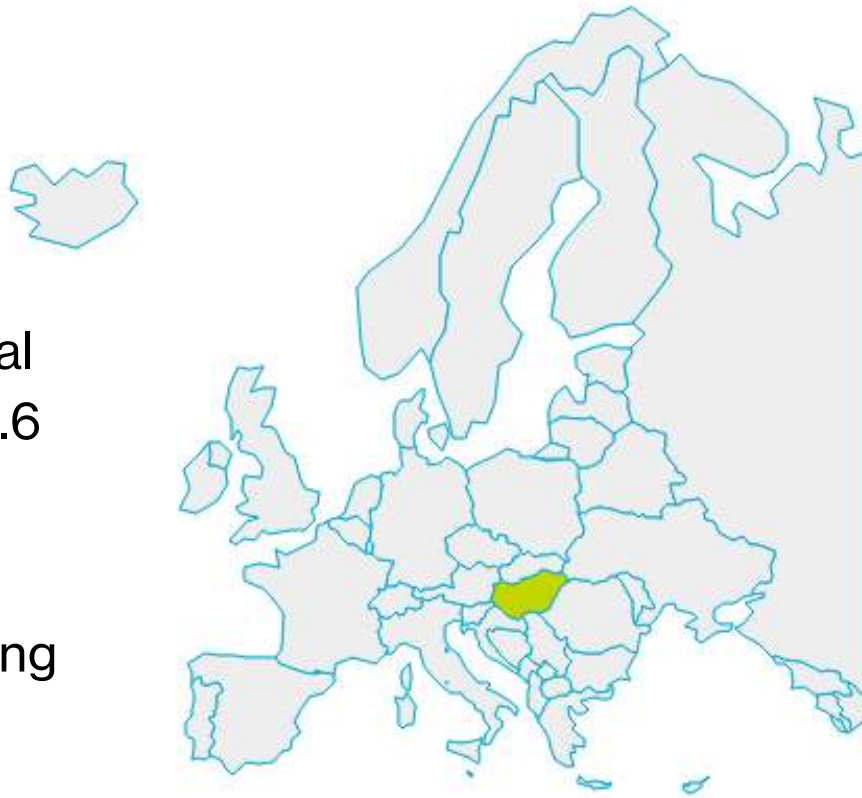
FAVOURITE MOMENTS

# ABOUT HUNGARY

Hungary is a country in Central Europe with a population of 9.6 million people.

2.9 million people live in housing poverty in the country.

Most common types of housing poverty is energy poverty, high housing costs, bad conditions (e.g. mouldy walls) and no access to water inside the property.



Since its foundation in 1996, Habitat for Humanity Hungary has built more than 150 houses, renovated nearly 800 homes, provided technical counselling to improve the housing of 700 families, carried out household management and other training programs with the participation of 1100 people, supporting 2700 families in total.

**Read more!**



# WORDS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**I warmly welcome all those interested in the 2024 Annual Report of Habitat for Humanity Hungary!**

**Habitat for Humanity works worldwide to make a safe, affordable home accessible to everyone. We believe that stable housing not only shapes the lives of individuals, but also creates the basis of a fairer, more inclusive society.**

During this year, we provided direct assistance to people living in difficult situations in nearly 30 settlements with our programs. More than 600 of our volunteers spent 4,300 working hours renovating homes and thus improving the living conditions of families. An outstanding result was our local government campaign organized together with the Housing Coalition, during which we engaged many local decision-makers to deal with housing problems during the local government elections.

In our advocacy work, we published our annual Housing Report, and with the Municipalities for Housing award, we recognized those settlements that offer exemplary solutions in the field of housing. In the Habitat Creative Center, we organized 68 programs in which more than 1200 people participated, actively contributing to common thinking and action for decent housing.



*Photo: Bence Járdány / Habitat for Humanity Hungary*

I gratefully thank our partners, supporters, donors and volunteers for their commitment and help! Their indispensable support - be it material, financial or professional contribution - made it possible for us to continue to work effectively on the eradication of housing poverty.

I am confident that our work together will continue unabated in 2025, and together we can create homes and security for even more families. Please, if you can, support Habitat for Humanity Hungary's mission - because everyone deserves a decent home.

**Thank you for your attention, support and cooperation throughout the year!**

**ZSOLT SZEGFALVI**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*





# OUR MISSION AND IMPACT

Habitat for Humanity Hungary works for a future where all people can live in a dignified home. Housing poverty is one of the most serious social problems in Hungary today. We are convinced that only a safe, healthy and affordable home can provide the background for a productive and fulfilling life. With our work, we support people living in difficult housing situations and contribute to the development of a fair, inclusive and sustainable housing policy in Hungary.






Our organization is unique in that it combines direct help and policy work to achieve our housing policy goals, as these two areas can work effectively when they complement each other.

During our organization's more than 28 years of operation, we have successfully completed many constructions, renovations, projects and campaigns.






## WHAT DO WE DO?

-  With our direct assistance programs, we improve the living conditions of hundreds of people across the country who are struggling with housing problems.
-  With our advocacy work, we actively advocate at the local, national and EU level and help with concrete proposals so that the decision-makers take the necessary steps in the field of housing.
-  We build community and work towards a future where housing is considered as a public matter:
  - we conduct the volunteer engagement program at building sites
  - we hold many programs at our creative center to raise awareness.

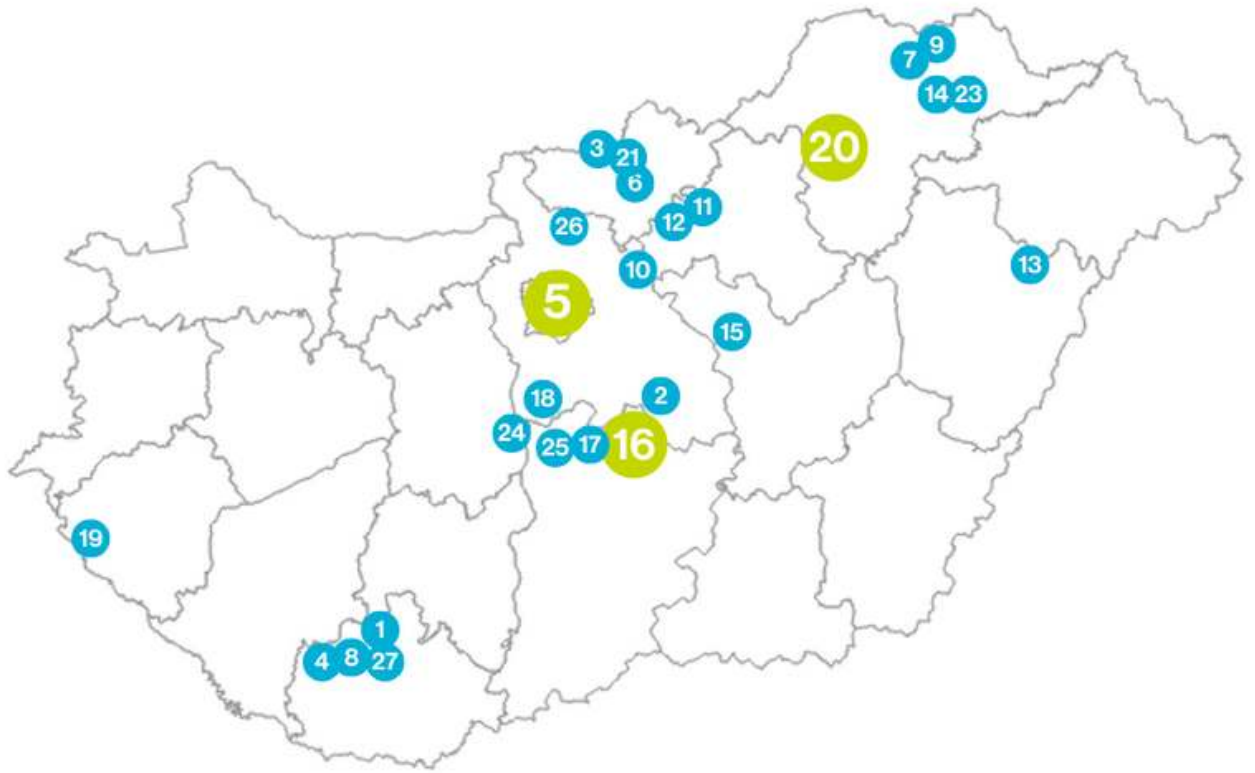
## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

-  With the help of hundreds of volunteers we renovated 2 social rental apartments, where families living in temporary homes could move in.
-  We provided minor housing assistance (e.g. roof repairs, window replacements) to 40 families across the country, improving the housing conditions of 176 people.
-  For the 13th time, we published our Annual Report on Housing Poverty, which is receiving more and more attention from the Hungarian press. In 2024, housing finally received more attention in government policy.



## WE HELPED IN THESE SETTLEMENTS IN 2024

1. Ág
2. Albertirsa
3. Balassagyarmat
4. Baranyaszentgyörgy
5. Budapest
6. Cserhátsurány
7. Fáj
8. Felsőegerszeg
9. Fulókércs
10. Galgahévíz
11. Gyöngyösoroszi
12. Gyöngyöspata
13. Hajdúhadház
14. Ináncs
15. Jánoshida
16. Kecskemét
17. Kerekegyháza
18. Kiskunlacháza
19. Lenti
20. Miskolc
21. Nógrádmарcal
22. Órhalom
23. Pere
24. Rácalmás
25. Szabadszállás
26. Sződ
27. Varga



In 2024, a total of 24 of us worked at Habitat Hungary for decent and affordable housing.

**This year, we supported people's housing in 27 settlements across the country.**



# DIRECT HELP

In our direct assistance programs, we mainly support access to a dignified, safe and affordable home with renovations.

## SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM

The number of households applying for social rental housing is several times higher than the number of affordable rental housing available, so many families are forced to sublease on the market, which they find difficult to finance in addition to rising rents and energy prices.

With our Second Chance Program, we help families who, due to affordability problems and loss of housing, are forced to live in temporary homes for families for several years.

In cooperation with the municipalities of Budapest districts and Temporary Homes of Families, we renovate vacant, uninhabitable social rental apartments, into which families living in temporary homes can move, thus making it possible for them to have independent, safe and affordable housing again.



**BEFORE**

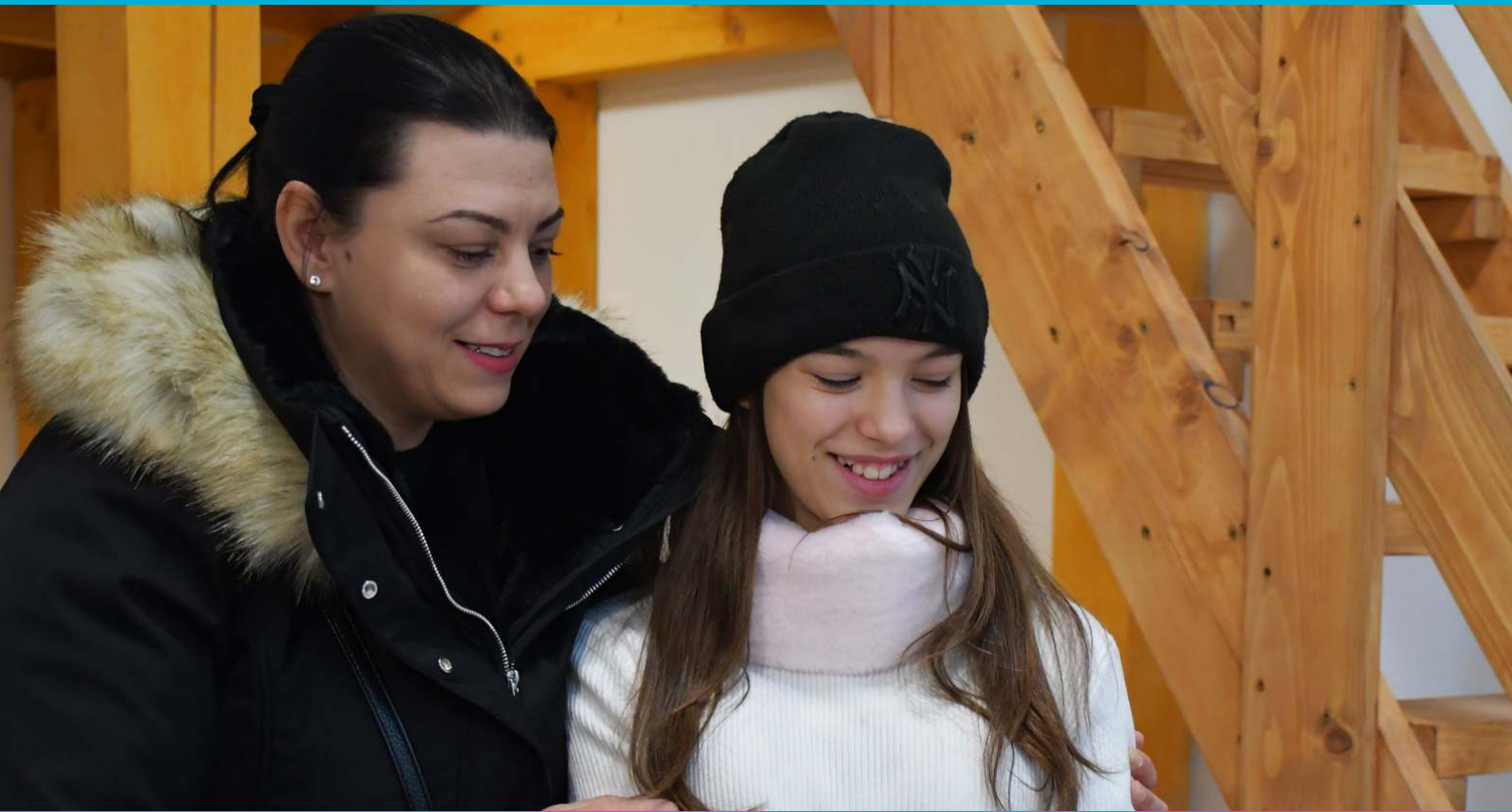


**AFTER**

In 2024, we completed the renovation of 2 social rentals and handed them over to the Budapest, 4th district municipality. We added 3 more apartments to our program, which will be completed in 2025 (in the 4th and 8th district). Thanks to this, next year 3 more families will be able to leave the temporary home and start their independent lives.



# THE STORY OF BARBARA AND HER FAMILY



On December 13, 2024, we handed over the keys to the 20th completed Second Chance apartment. A family of four moved into the renovated municipal apartment in Újpest, who was able to spend Christmas in their new home.

Barbara and Rajmund lived in stable conditions with their two children until they both lost their jobs due to the Covid pandemic. They could no longer pay their rent, and they did not have money for another deposit. They found themselves in a housing crisis and asked for help from the S.O.S. Crisis Foundation.

Although the family has faced many difficulties in recent years, they have overcome these obstacles in their way and have consciously built their lives. Rajmund and Barbara both have permanent, secure jobs and were excited to restart their independent lives with their children.

“When I first entered the apartment, the walls were knocked down; the floor we are standing on now was made of sand, but I felt joy. We have worked very hard in recent years. The personal experience of being able to participate in the renovation of our home means a lot to us, and we will always remember these moments with joy” - said Barbara at the apartment handover event.

# SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM

We help people who live in self-owned real estate or municipal rental housing, which has suffered such damage or is in a technical condition that endangers or makes it impossible to use the home as intended. Anyone can apply for the nationwide program for minor renovations, including for example:

- replacing doors and windows,
- painting,
- insulation,
- buying building materials.

**IN 2024, WE SUPPORTED 40 RENOVATIONS UNDER THE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES PROGRAM, WHICH ASSISTED 176 PEOPLE, AND THUS WE REACHED THE 150TH FAMILY WHOSE HOMES WE WERE ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO SINCE THE PROGRAM'S LAUNCH.**

## THE HOUSE WILL "SERVE HER FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE"

Aunt Joli is a childless, 84-year-old pensioner who lives alone. She used to be a postal worker for decades, which she is very proud of. Her house has seen better days, but the site is still impressive. Joli joined our program on the recommendation of a local NGO.

Unfortunately, over the years, the masonry on one side of the house was damaged to such an extent that it was feared to fall. With our support, we managed to find a local contractor who repaired the collapsed wall at a fair price. One of the main problems in the house has now been settled for many years.

Joli was not only happy about the financial help, but also due to the fact that the organizational tasks were lifted from her shoulders: finding an entrepreneur for her and coordinating the work appeared impossible. Now she calmed down: this house "will serve her for the rest of her life".





## FAMILY VILLAGE PROGRAM

There are many families living in Hungary today who would be eligible for state renovation support (State Subsidy Program), but due to their limited financial situation, they are unable to pre-finance the works, and thus are unable to claim the aforementioned support.

We developed our Village Housing Program together with a banking partner, where we take on the financial, administrative and implementation burdens so that families can access and use state subsidies. In 2024, this program improved the housing situation of 11 people across the country.



## PROJECT UKRAINE

For almost 2.5 years, we have helped Ukrainian refugees find safe and affordable housing. At first, with our Solidarity Accommodation and Rental Support Program, later by providing very much needed donations such as furniture, household appliances etc. With this help we tried to make sure that those who had to leave everything behind could feel like home in Hungary.

**During the project, we worked with a total of 11 partner organizations, created 3 sub-programs (solidarity housing program, rental subsidy program and donation program) and were able to help a total of 3,107 refugees find affordable and safe housing.**



**PROJECT ENDED**

# ADVOCACY

Through research, studies and policy proposal packages, we are working to ensure that Hungary has a housing policy that takes into account social inequalities and eliminates them through fair and equitable redistribution, thus reducing housing poverty.

Housing poverty affects approximately 2.5-3 million people in Hungary. 17% of the population lives in overcrowded housing, every 5th person has an unhealthy home. Hundreds of thousands of families are burdened by housing maintenance and utility costs, and nearly 300 thousand people live in segregated areas and slums.

Housing poverty is often manifested through energy consumption: a significant part of domestic residential buildings are in poor energy conditions, and many households find it financially burdensome to heat their homes, which also has a negative impact on the quality of housing (cold, damp walls, drafty buildings, mold). This is energy poverty, which could be alleviated by policy measures at local and national levels, and which we address as a priority in our work.

Since 2009, we have been working with experts to conduct policy research, studies and developing proposals to address issues such as housing affordability, housing insecurity and debt. We communicate our findings to decision-makers and the public, and work with our partners to drive positive change in the field.

**IN OUR POLICY WORK, WE WORK CLOSELY WITH MUNICIPALITIES AND MAKE PROPOSALS TO THE DECISION-MAKERS.**



*We discussed our policy positions with decision-makers on 16 occasions, both at the government and municipal levels.*

**16**  
meetings with  
decision-  
makers



**15**  
conferen-  
ces

*We were invited to 15 domestic and international conferences as panelists or roundtable participants to present our views, analyses and experiences on housing and energy poverty issues.*



## ANNUAL REPORT ON HOUSING POVERTY

Since 2012, we have been publishing our Annual Report on Housing Poverty, changes in the government and policy environment in a given year, and the situation of housing access and affordability.

In this report, we used Eurostat's household income and living conditions survey data and the 2022 census data to make conclusions about the number and groups of people affected by housing poverty.

We also separately analyzed the development of housing policies at the municipal level, the opportunities for local bodies and the best practices they apply. The report also analyzes government support for housing and the issue of affordability.

**154**  
media  
appearance



*Authors of the first two chapters of our 2024 Housing Report (from right to left): Márton Czirfusz, co-founder of Periféria Policy and Research Center, György Lukács, our Advocacy Officer and Zsolt Szegfalvi, our Executive Director, at the press event of the report*

**Annual report on  
housing poverty**



## HOUSING MINIMUM

As a member of the Housing Coalition, we participated in the development of the Municipal Housing Minimum Proposal Package. The Housing Coalition is a loose, informal alliance of Hungarian housing organizations.

Our goal for 2024 was to make policy proposals for the upcoming local elections that could remedy the symptoms of the housing crisis at the local level, taking into account the different options, and provide methods and support for the local fight against housing poverty.



*More than 70 of the candidates – who ran in the local elections held on June 9, 2024 – committed to our housing policy measures listed in the Municipal Housing Minimum. We also try to help the candidates implement the measures after they are elected.*

## MUNICIPALITIES FOR HOUSING

The Covid pandemic, the energy crisis and high inflation have exacerbated livelihood and housing problems, while also significantly limiting the scope for local governments, while the population has turned to them for help even more often. With our tender, we were looking for local governments that, despite these challenges, have supported their residents, have made exemplary efforts within their capabilities and have implemented good practices.

**39 municipalities from Budapest and from 15 counties responded to our call for proposals. We awarded one municipality in each of three categories based on settlement size. The municipalities of Józsefváros, Keszthely and Jánoshida received financial and professional support for the implementation of various model programs.**



Local governments shared a lot of valuable information in the applications received. In order to ensure that these positive examples do not get lost, we asked the Periféria Policy and Research Center to prepare a collection of best practices and a review study. The purpose of the best practices publication is to show possible ways for settlement leaders, local government representatives, professionals working in the settlement institutional system, and local civil society organizations dealing with housing to address housing problems and try out new solutions.

The local model programs with awards was completed in Józsefváros in 2024, and are still being implemented in the other two locations.

**The 2 million forint contribution provided by the application program helped financing the first monthly housing benefit for 76 households in Józsefváros, with an average of 25,000 forints per household.**



# BIOBALANCE PROJECT

**22**  
families

In 2024, we completed an international project in which we tested practices aimed at reducing firewood use in two small village communities in Baranya County.

In this context, 4 heat columns and a firewood drying storage were built in one of the settlements, for which the project also provided a firewood subsidy and revolving fund to the local community. In the other location, in addition to the firewood subsidy fund, 19 windows and doors were replaced in 12 homes, and we were able to replace the old, outdated iron stoves in 6 homes.

**PROJECT ENDED**



**TWO HANDBOOKS WERE PRODUCED  
BASED ON BEST PRACTICES FROM  
LOCAL PILOT PROJECTS FOR  
COMMUNITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES  
USING FIREWOOD.**

**ENERGY POVERTY**

## BIOJUST PROJECT

The winner of the small town category of our 'Municipalities for Housing' competition and award is Jánoshida, where we are establishing a firewood support and revolving fund within the framework of the project. The municipality can also use the award to purchase equipment to assist in the processing and distribution of firewood: a new saw and a used trailer were purchased, and 2 pallets were made.

We will continue our cooperation with the municipality in 2025: within the framework of the project, we will jointly develop an action plan and measures aimed at addressing and reducing energy poverty.

# ENERGY POVERTY DIAGNOSIS FOR THE TOWN OF SÁTORALJAÚJHELY

**PROJECT ENDED**

We have prepared an energy poverty diagnosis for Sátoraljaújhely, the main aim of which was to identify and characterize the affected groups. Reducing energy poverty can address several social (e.g. housing quality, health aspects) and environmental (e.g. air quality) problems simultaneously.

The diagnosis also outlines 15 proposed measures to alleviate energy poverty in the settlement.

## ENERGY POVERTY

### GREEN HOMES IN NÓGRÁD

In this project, we created a knowledge sharing network related to the energy renovation of residential buildings. In the network, with the cooperation of 32 public and professional actors, we surveyed:

- what obstacles need to be overcome in the way of energy-efficient home renovations,
- what would households need in order for the modernizations to take place,
- and how representatives of different sectors – residential, industrial, state and local government – can help this process.

We paid special attention to the possibilities of solving the situation of households at risk of energy poverty.

**PROJECT ENDED**

**32**  
coopera-  
tions



# HABITAT CREATIVE CENTER

The Habitat Creative Center, which opened on Margit körút in May 2023, is both a community and event space, as well as a housing knowledge center. Our goal is to build a conscious and active community, and also to impart theoretical and practical knowledge related to housing poverty. We organize colorful housing-themed community programs in the space: film club, expert lectures and discussions, home renovation workshops, eco-club, charity clothing exchange, volunteer meetings, etc. We also provide space for events of various local community organizations with social and cultural purposes. In 2024 alone, we held 75 different programs, which were attended by nearly 1400 participants!

**1392**  
participants

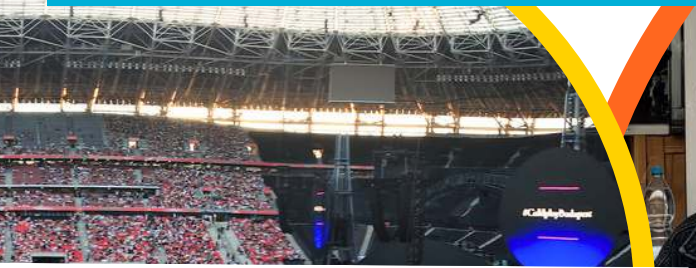
**75**  
programs





## YOU COULD ALSO MEET US HERE!

We consider it important to meet people interested in our work in person as often as possible, which is why we participated in several events in 2024. In these civil villages, you could also see our data visualization board, designed and completed in 2024, on which we measure and show the conditions in which people live and would live by dotting and tying yarn.



**COLDPLAY CONCERT**



**FÉNY UTCA MARKET**



**BÁNKITÓ FESTIVAL**



**BARTÓK FESZT'**







## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Volunteering is one of Habitat's core values and an invaluable part of our work. The time and activities of our volunteers mean a lot not only to us, but also to those who receive the help.

In addition to construction, our volunteers are involved in our work in an increasingly diverse way. In addition to renovations, there is an occasional opportunity to participate in administrative, graphic, communication work, event management, or even as an activist for the cause of housing.

In 2024, we worked with 618 volunteers on the renovation of social rental apartments, during 103 days. This amounted to 4,326 working hours, for which we are immensely grateful to all our volunteers!

**103**  
volunteer  
days

**4326**  
hours

**618**  
volunteers

# Press and media

In 2024, the national and local press (online, print, radio, TV) reported 564 times on Habitat's activities. Our policy work was covered in 467 publications.

In 2024, video content production received greater emphasis on our social media. We consider it important to build personal connections and community, for which we believe that video content is the most suitable tool today. We also try to connect with our followers on our own platforms, which include both our civil organization and corporate partners, volunteers and customers.

**564**  
press  
releases

## THIS IS WHAT WE ARE MOST PROUD OF:

### WE MADE THE FRONT PAGE OF "NÉPSZAVA"

#### Rossz lakásban élnek majd 3 millióan

**FELMÉRÉS** A hazai lakosság majdnem harmadát, 2 millió 877 ezer embert érint a lakhatási sze-

gényesség – derít ki a Humanity Magyarország felmérése. Minél rosszabb a háztartás beázik, víz, fürdő, WC, és a lakók 30 százaléka túlsúlyos. A lakásokon az évek óta nem is tudnak változtatni. 680 ezer ember panaszkodik, hogy nincs elég ingatlan. A lakhatási problémák lényegében nem változtak 10 évben, és a globális éghajlati változások érinti. A korábbi ugyan megjelent problémájára, de a társadalmi célokról szavazatok növekedés fellelő a valóban rászorulókat nem erik el, ahogy a korábbi, családpolitikai típusú lakástámogatások sem.

CIKKÜNK A 3. OLDALON



### INTERVIEW WITH THE POPULAR HUNGARIAN RAPPER, SISI

**OF ALL OUR PRESS APPEARANCES, 282 SPECIFICALLY SHOWCASED THE WORK OF OUR ORGANIZATION. OUR PROACTIVE COMMUNICATION WORK RESULTED IN 483 PRESS APPEARANCES FOR OUR ORGANIZATION THIS YEAR.**

#### „A panelek között nagyon nehéz Beyoncé-t hallgatni” – Interjú Sisivel a lakhatásról 🏠

VIDEÓ

INTERJÚ

LAKHATÁS

LAKHATÁSI VÁLSÁG

SISI



Sisivel beszélgettünk a fiatalokat (is) érintő lakhatási nehézségekről, a saját





**MÁRK EMBER, ACTOR**



**SISI, RAPPER**



**PETRA GUBIK, ACTRESS**

## THEY WERE WITH US IN 2024



**ANGÉLA EKE, ACTRESS**

We are also proud that more and more actors, singers, artists, and influencers are standing by us and committing to the cause of housing. We are immensely grateful for their support, which greatly contributes to our goal – to make housing a truly public issue and a fundamental right for everyone in Hungary.



**FRUZZSINA VISZKOK,  
BLOGGER/VLOGGER**



**TAMÁS VERÉB,  
SINGER, ACTOR**



**PÉTER FELMÉRI,  
COMEDIAN**



**VIRÁG HAVASI,  
BLOGGER/VLOGGER**



**ANDREA OSVÁRT,  
ACTRESS**



## CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP

Thanks to our corporate partners, we are able to provide direct assistance to hundreds of people every year, provide better living conditions, and help them find affordable, safe homes.

The companies that cooperate with us support our direct assistance programs (Support, Second Chance, Village Housing Impact) and our policy work, and can also join our volunteer program, during which the company's employees spend one or more days helping to renovate an apartment.

In 2024, 21 of our corporate partners provided support for our direct assistance or policy programs. Become our corporate partner in 2025!



**Get to know  
our corporate  
partners!**





## CORPORATE VOLUNTEER DAYS

In 2024, we worked together with the employees of our corporate partners for 27 days to ensure that a previously uninhabitable social rental apartment could become a safe, dignified home for a family in difficult circumstances after renovation.

Our volunteers enthusiastically carried out various tasks, from demolition to concreting, plasterboarding and painting. In the process they had the opportunity to get to know each other better in a different environment than usual.

**Great team building  
opportunity**

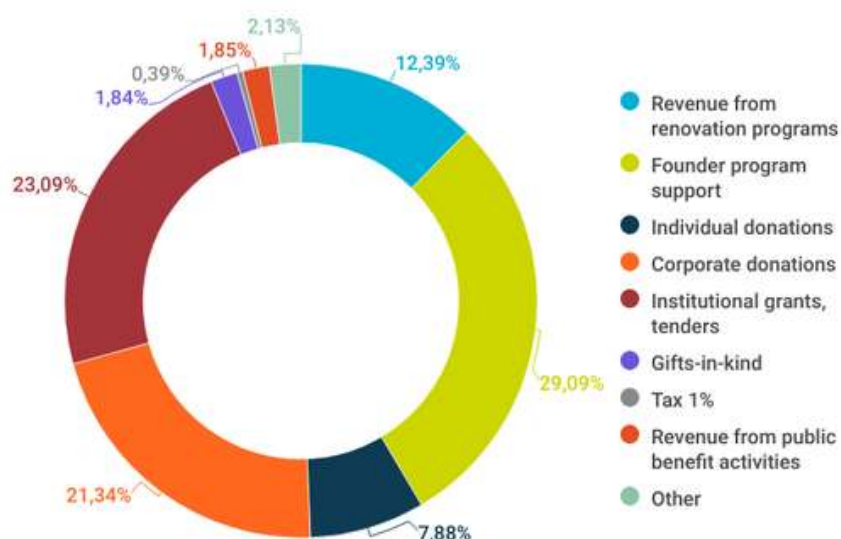


**A well-communicable, tangible, and meaningful social responsibility  
program**

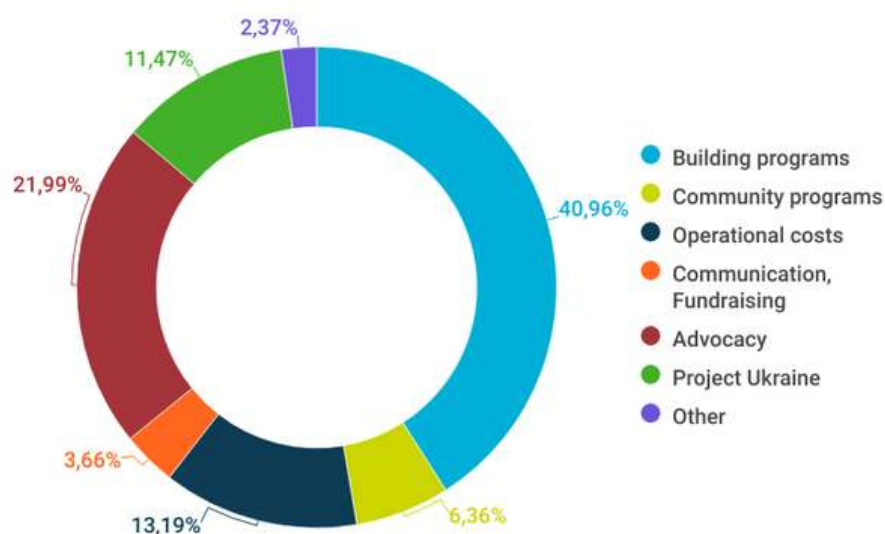
# Finance\*

Our organization operated with nearly 380 million forints in revenue and a similar amount in expenses in 2024. We could not have achieved the results presented on the previous pages without private, corporate and institutional support, as well as the hard work of our volunteers. We thank all our donors for their contributions!

## Revenues 2024



## Expenses 2024



**Tax 1%:**  
nearly  
**1,5 million**  
**HUF**

In 2024, 123 of you offered us 1% of your personal income tax to support our work. This amounts to a total of HUF 1,443,105. If you have the opportunity, please think of us when filing your tax return so that we can help even more families live in decent homes this year!

*\*pre-audit data*





We love to spend time with our volunteers outside of work and get to know each other better. We often play board games, talk a lot, and laugh. We were able to gather with some of them at the Habitat Creative Center before Christmas to get in the mood for the upcoming holidays.

## Our favourite moments

In 2024, as part of our Second Chance Program, we started to cooperate with the Budapest 8th district, where we will renovate 2 additional municipal apartments for families living in temporary homes.

We took possession of the uninhabitable apartments and started our construction work, which is essential to be able to carry out the renovation together with our volunteers. The photos show the 2 apartments and our partners: representatives of the municipality and the Families' Temporary Home.







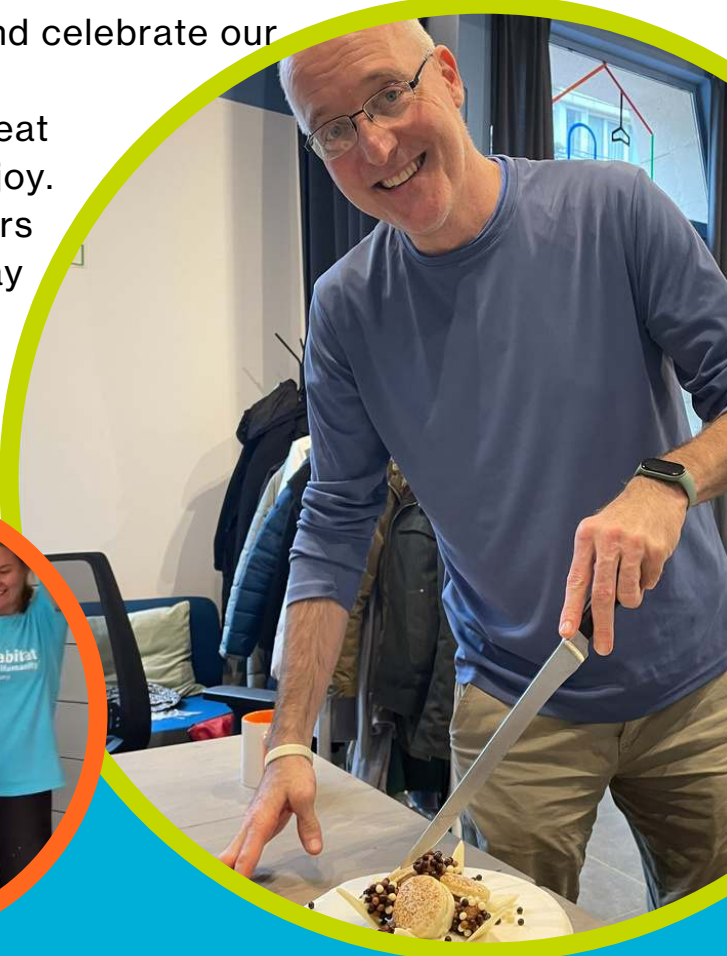
Follow us on  
Instagram for  
more moments!



We rarely have the opportunity to spend a few hours together. In 2024, we made our team workshops a regular occurrence, where we not only spend time together but also work on developing the organization. In November, we spent this opportunity at Normafa.

We also consider it important to stop and celebrate our successes and important moments. At such times, we have lunch together, eat cake, or just dedicate a few minutes to joy. In 2024, our organization turned 28 years old, which happened to be Volunteer Day

- we celebrated with a surprise cake!





# Thank You!

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We cannot express enough how grateful we are that so many of you stand by us as volunteers and support our work! Without you, we would not be able to help so many people. We would like to say a special thank you to those who also report on our work on their own social media platforms, as this way more and more people become aware of our work. Thanks to this we can support even more people in achieving decent housing conditions.

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We are grateful to all our donors who help our work with financial donations and/or volunteer work, thus supporting families together so that they can live in a dignified home!

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# Let's build more safe homes together!