

Piroska kommandó - food and medicine delivery for elderly people during the COVID pandemic

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WHAT IS A PIROSKA KOMMANDÓ?

- The name Piroška Kommandó comes from a familiar children story about Little Red Riding Hood
- It was established during the first phase of the COVID Pandemic in 2023 march
 - Decreasing number of consumption during the first wave
 - Some carriers were on halt
 - Companies were loosing money
 - Delivery workers had to be on the streets – why not to help people?

- **Visegrad Fund**



Logo of Piroška Kommandó
Source: facebook/piroskakommando

WHY, WHO, WHERE AND WHAT?

- Charity activities were cancelled
- Spreading virus vs. Spreading health equipments
- Budapest but later some districts were highlighted
- The local government of the 9th district contacted those, who are already in their registry for being disadvantaged
- The local government of the 6th district gave away „crisispackages”
- The group suffered from lack of voluntaries in the beginning
- A multiple ad hoc and already existing groups contributed
 - Originally from HajtásPajtás delivery
 - Voluntary group Bike Maffia collects and delivers donations for people with disadvantage
 - Vészfutár (Delivery in the need) also voluntarily helped for those in need



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WHY AND HOW

- There was no central coordination nationwide,
 - sick people or contact persons were unable to solve seemingly simple tasks
 - as going to the pharmacy
 - or walking the dog.
- In the first wave, the government office provided daily data on those in quarantine., but in the second wave nothing was communicated
- In the absence of this, the Piroska Kommandó had to rely on the contacts and the data collection and information campaigns of local governments
- Those who have found themselves in a difficult situation due to quarantine

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RESULTS REACHED

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ACTIVITIES



Source: Facebook/Ferencvaros

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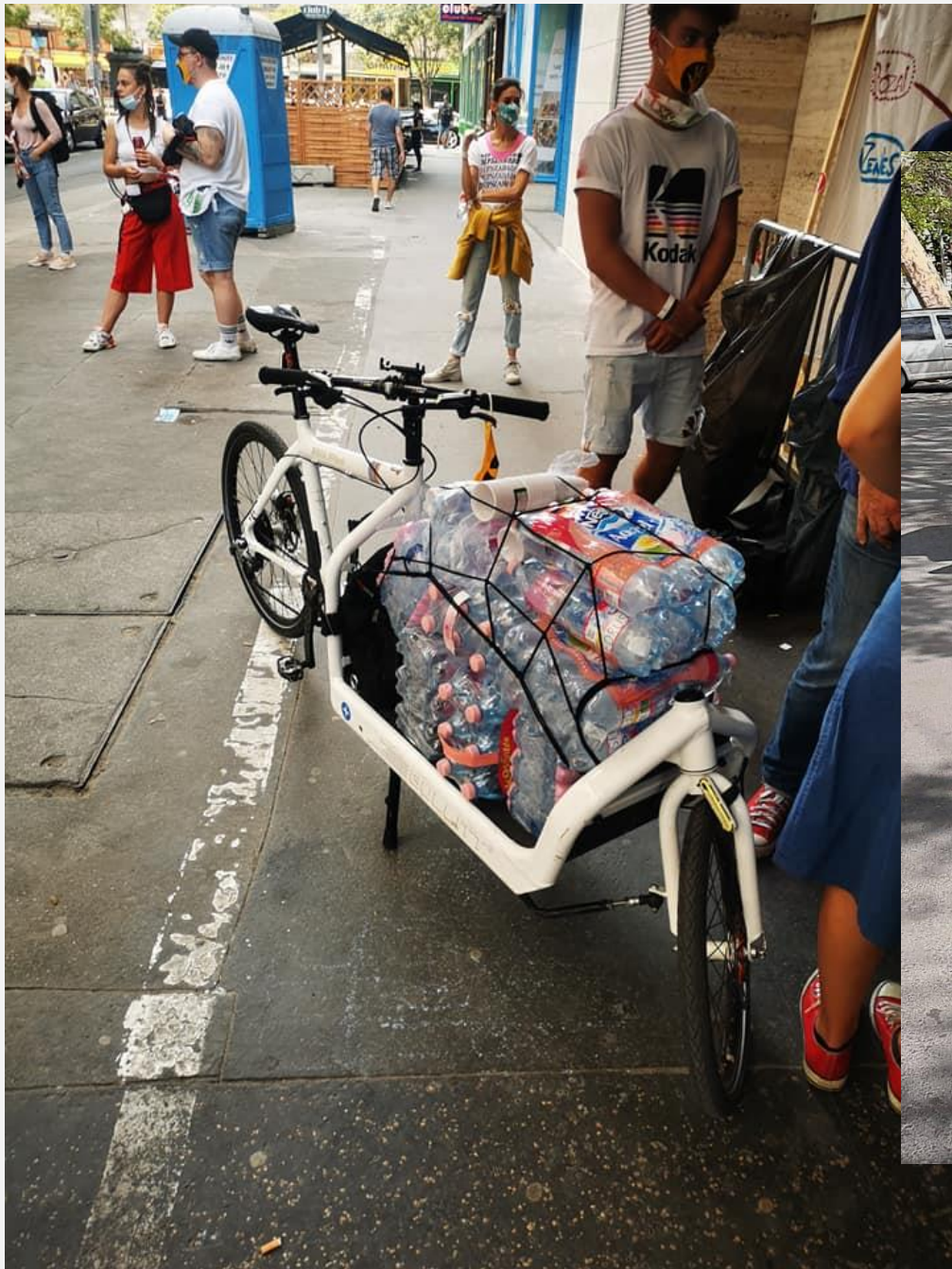
- Delivering crisis packets
- Delivering masks to the mailboxes of 6th and 9th district residents
- Social lunches delivery
- Supporting a private initiative that sews reusable, washable masks for hospitals.
 - By relieving them of the burden of logistics, they were able to multiply their efficiency and thus a huge number of masks (thousands) could reach the most important places, hospital workers, in the shortest time.
- In order to spread information of the movement to the people as widely as possible, they have produced leaflets containing all the important information.



Source: Facebook/Piroskakommando



Source: Facebook/Piroskakommando



Source: Facebook/Piroskakommando

DIFFICULTIES

The other very important thing - and until this is a reflex, I will also emphasize it in events - **is that only those who really come should indicate themselves as "I will be there"**. Like, share, "maybe" as you like, **but it is REALLY important to be able to predict how many of us will be in the end from the nominations that will be there.** Obviously, if there are two events at the same time, it would be nice if an individual entity nominated itself for sure at one event, and it would be best if it were on what it would eventually come to, since it is unlikely at least according to the current state of science that it will be in two places at the same time.

- Financial support
- Communication
 - with the residents
 - within the group
- Coordination

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ADAPTATION POSSIBILITIES FOR OTHER SETTLEMENTS

- Limitations to the use of best practice in different locations
 - Not all settlements local government is opened for such cooperations
 - Minimum need of approximately 10-50 volunteers and a proper coordinator
 - Trust within the locals
 - Lack of founding
 - Delivery people as „enemies”



RISK/THREATS FOR MAINTENANCE

- After the pandemic there is no need for maintaining such activity
- People are less devoted and engaged towards helping other
- The „core” of volunteers remain, but the once 500+ member is now working full time on the delivery market.

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Source: Zoltán Tuba

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

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