

# DREAM TO GROW



PRE-NATAL AND  
FAMILY-CHILD  
SERVICES



PRESCHOOL/  
KINDERGARTEN



PRIMARY AND  
SECONDARY  
SCHOOL



HIGH  
SCHOOL

MOTHERHOOD  
AND ACTIVISM



SUN-  
SHINE'S  
STORY

I am Sunshine from Hungary. Starting with where I am now, and going back to my early years, I will walk you through my journey to become the person I am today. I will share notable moments in my life – exploring the events that made me strong and introducing you to the individuals who supported me throughout the many challenges I faced on my journey. **I am proud to be Roma, of who I am now, and of my dream to grow.**

I am 35 years old and work as an intercultural mediator and facilitator. My job is to support Roma parents and children all over the country.



After finishing high school, I began building my family. I participated in the “Your story” program with my young daughter. This program provides mothers with children’s books and teaches them to read and tell stories to their children.

I was a natural. I learned the method so well that I began to lead groups myself. Soon after, I got a job offer at a well-known NGO to work with them as a community facilitator and mentor!



VERY FEW NGOS FOCUS ON EARLY CHILDHOOD SERVICES FOR ROMA FAMILIES. SURE START PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE IN CERTAIN PARTS OF THE COUNTRY. HOWEVER, THEIR OPERATIONS VARIES FROM REGION TO REGION AND THEIR SUSTAINABILITY IS UNCERTAIN.

**D**uring high school, I was a talented student and worked very hard. I excelled best in courses where I didn't experience discrimination from teachers.



**6.9%** OF ROMA HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA. FEWER THAN 1% OF ROMA HAVE A TERTIARY DIPLOMA (COMPARED TO 18.5% OF THE GENERAL ADULT POPULATION).



**17.3%** OF ROMA CHILDREN DO NOT FINISH PRIMARY EDUCATION, COMPARED TO 3.2% OF NON-ROMA.

**77.7%** OF ROMA CHILDREN DROP-OUT AT AGE 14 COMPARED TO 24.6% OF NON-ROMA.



**A HIGH PROPORTION OF ROMA STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOLS OR CLASSES WHERE 50% OR MORE OF THEIR CLASSMATES ARE ROMA.**

**I**n primary school, I faced a lot of discrimination from peers – sometimes even from teachers.

I used to call myself “dumb.” That was until my literacy teacher took note of my skills. From the moment she showed that she believed in me, I was motivated to work hard and show what I could do.

**92%** OF ROMA CHILDREN HAVE ACCESS TO PRESCHOOL EDUCATION.

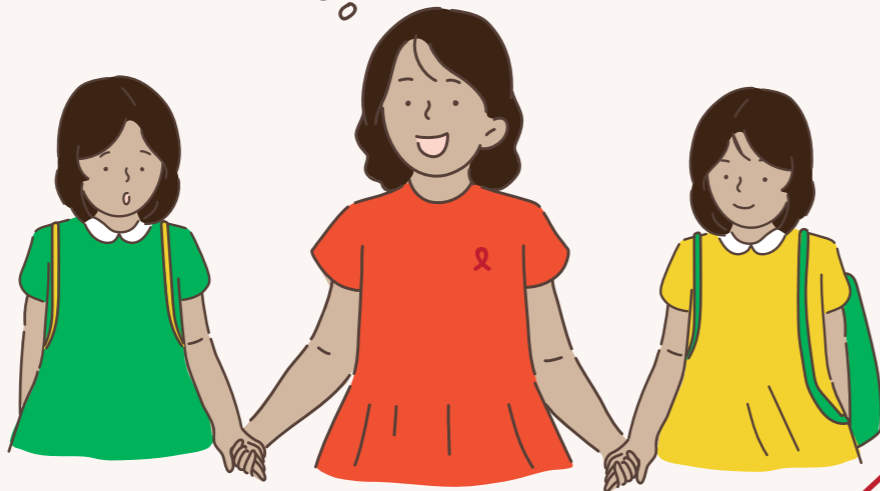
IN HUNGARY, KINDERGARTEN IS COMPULSORY FOR ALL CHILDREN.

SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED CHILDREN ARE GIVEN PRIORITY IN ENROLLMENT AND RECENTLY KINDERGARTEN ATTENDANCE HAS BECOME COMPULSORY FOR THEM FROM THE AGE OF THREE.



ALL FAMILIES IN HUNGARY ARE POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES OF A HOME VISITING PROGRAM CALLED "MOTHER, CHILD, AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE."

THERE IS NO TARGETED PUBLIC SERVICE FOR ROMA FAMILIES. IN CERTAIN CASES, FAMILY CARE SOCIAL WORKERS SUPPORT ROMA FAMILIES.



**A**t the beginning of my preschool years, my attendance was sporadic. When my siblings began preschool, I attended more regularly because it was my responsibility to walk them to school.

**B**efore I was born, my parents weren't offered a prenatal program. They occasionally received home visits from a family care professional. The state provided these.



REYN HUNGARY IS A PROFESSIONAL NETWORK OF MORE THAN 600 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AND 25 ORGANIZATIONS WORKING IN HUNGARY. PARTNERS HUNGARY FOUNDATION HOSTS THIS NETWORK. SINCE 2014, THEY HAVE OFFERED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES REGULARLY FOR THEIR MEMBERS. THE NETWORK ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO RAISING THE NUMBER OF ROMA EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS AND ADVOCATES FOR QUALITY CHILDHOOD SERVICES IN HUNGARY.

FIND OUT MORE: [WWW.REYN.HU](http://WWW.REYN.HU)

FACEBOOK PAGE: [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/REYN.HUNGARY](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/REYN.HUNGARY)

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Partners Hungary Foundation was established in 1994. They aim to create a society in which there are structures available for the establishment of equal opportunities. The vision of Partners Hungary Foundation is an accepting and open society that lives in harmony with its environment and with nature.

The Foundation aims to spread a culture of cooperation.

*The data presented in this infographic is from Hungary. It is the result of research and monitoring done by REYN Hungary and its hosting organization Partners Hungary.*