

# DREAM TO GROW



JOB/  
EMPLOYMENT

WORK  
EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY/  
GRADUATION



HIGH SCHOOL

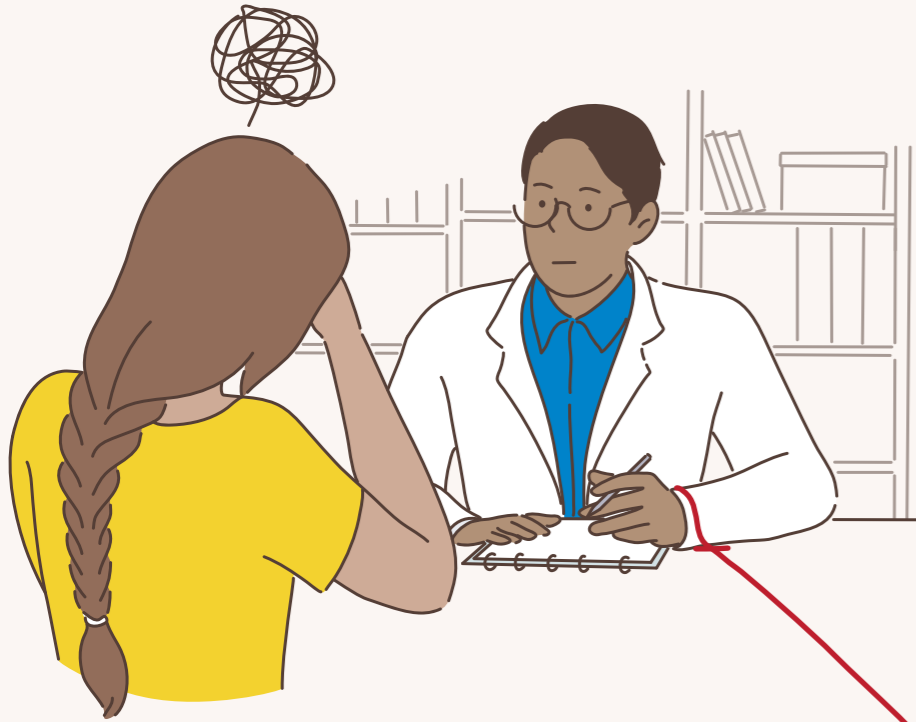


PRIMARY AND  
SECONDARY SCHOOL



PRESCHOOL  
KINDERGARTEN





ONLY **38%**  
OF ROMA ARE  
EMPLOYED.

**35%** OF  
ROMA INDICATE  
THAT THEY  
ENCOUNTERED  
VIOLATIONS OF  
THEIR RIGHTS  
WHEN SEEKING  
EMPLOYMENT.

*Roma rights in Ukraine: problems, challenges, prospects. Report on the results of a sociological survey. Coalition of Roma NGOs of Ukraine "Strategy 2020". Kyiv, 2017, 30 p.*



In 2014, I started volunteering as an editor for the public television station, Tisa 1. Three years later, I was employed as a presenter of the TV program Romano Jivipen (Roma Life). I also created a new television program, Romano Luve (Roma word), as a writer, editor, and journalist.

I am Viktor from Ukraine. 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 29 years old and have two higher education degrees – in economics and psychology. I am also the author of a popular local television program about Roma. At the same time, I work as a psychologist, providing support for children in their transition to school. I am married and have a 6-month-old daughter, Leila. My biggest priority is to ensure that my daughter has the best education.

ONLY **2%** OF  
UKRAINIANS WOULD  
LIKE TO SEE ROMA  
AS COLLEAGUES  
AT WORK.

*Peculiarities of Lifestyle and Problems of Roma Social Integration in Ukraine: An Analytical Report / OA Yaremenko, OG Levtsun, OM Balakireva, VA Voynalovich et al. - K.: Ukrainian Institute for Social Research, 2003. - 168 p.*



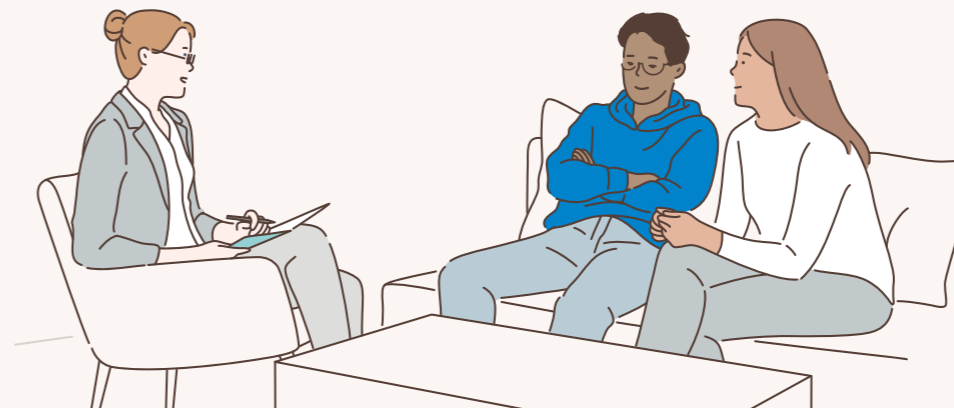
**31% OF ROMA CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL AT ALL.**

**ONLY 1% ENROLL IN HIGHER EDUCATION.**

*Roma rights in Ukraine: problems, challenges, prospects. Report on the results of a sociological survey. Coalition of Roma NGOs of Ukraine "Strategy 2020". Kyiv, 2017, 30 p.*

**W**hile in school, I dreamed of becoming a psychologist, but my parents were unable to pay for my university studies.

I was able to secure a scholarship from the Roma Education Fund (REF). At the time, REF offered scholarships to pursue law and economics studies, so I chose to study economics. When REF's priorities changed, I decided to pursue my dream to become a psychologist.



**I**n high school, I did not have support. Out of 90 students, I was the only Roma in my school. Many classmates were curious about my origins, but I didn't experience prejudice.

**ONLY 6% OF ROMA HAVE COMPLETED VOCATIONAL TRAINING OR HIGH SCHOOL, AND OVER 90% HAVE NOT RECEIVED A FULL EDUCATION.**

*Roma rights in Ukraine: problems, challenges, prospects. Report on the results of a sociological survey. Coalition of Roma NGOs of Ukraine "Strategy 2020". Kyiv, 2017, 30 p.*

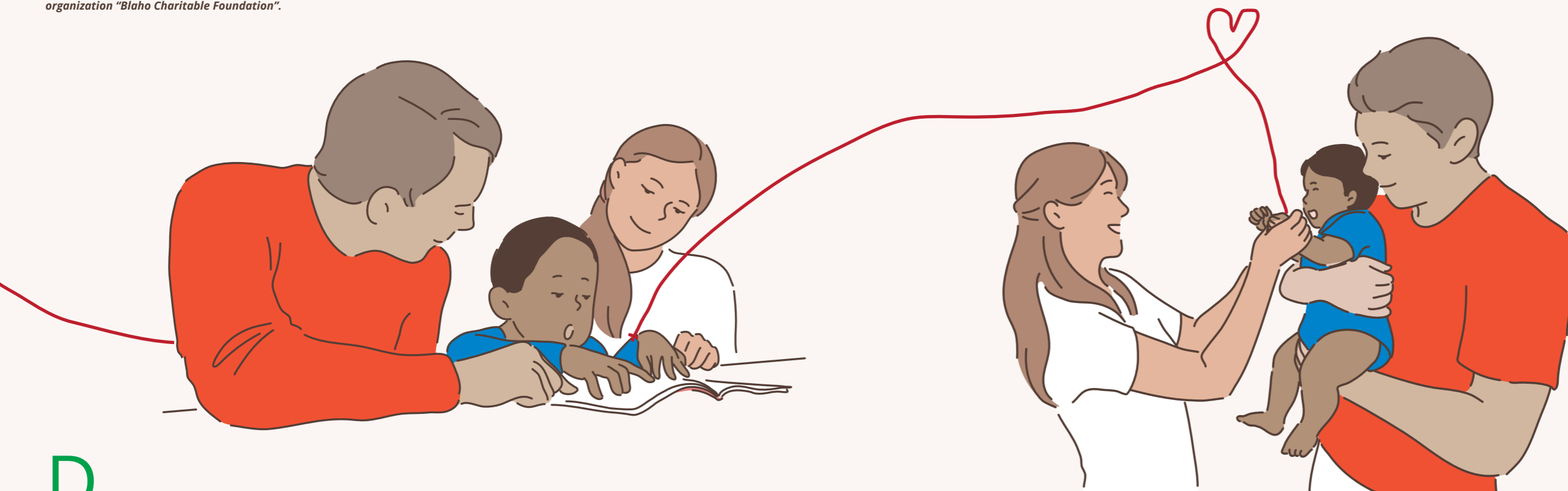


ABOUT **50%** OF ROMA CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND SCHOOL REGULARLY.

ONLY **20-30%** OF ROMA CHILDREN RECEIVE A PRIMARY SCHOOL EDUCATION.

MANY DO NOT FINISH SCHOOL.

*Data presented are the result of research and monitoring done by REYN Ukraine and its hosting organization "Blaho Charitable Foundation".*



**D**uring primary school, my parents helped me with my studies. But, when I entered 5th grade, I became much more independent and did my homework without any help.

**A**s a young child, I didn't have the opportunity to attend kindergarten. In my family, early childhood education services were not considered valuable. My mother and father preferred to keep me at home until primary school.

**31%** OF ROMA CHILDREN DO NOT ATTEND ANY LEVEL OF EDUCATION AT ALL.

*Roma rights in Ukraine: problems, challenges, prospects. Report on the results of a sociological survey. Coalition of Roma NGOs of Ukraine "Strategy 2020". Kyiv, 2017, 30 p.*

REYN-UKRAINE IS A NETWORK AND A COMMUNITY OF SOCIAL WORKERS, EDUCATORS, ROMA PARENTS, ROMA COMMUNITY LEADERS, OFFICIALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE UNITED TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND QUALITY EDUCATION IN UKRAINIAN SOCIETY, PROFESSIONALISM IN EARLY YEARS SERVICES AND A BETTER REPRESENTATION OF ROMA IN THE WORKFORCE. THEY AIM TO BUILD A SOCIETY WHERE EVERY ROMA CHILD FEELS SAFE, EAGER TO LEARN, AND HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

FIND OUT MORE AT: [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/REYNUKRAINE/](https://www.facebook.com/reynukraine/)

JOIN US: [HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/IQMWEJ9NGM8w717o7](https://forms.gle/iQMWEJ9NGM8w717o7)



Transcarpathian regional charity foundation “Blago” was registered and started work in 2003. “Blago” works in the sphere of education and social aid, it prepares Roma children for school, and works alongside parents. The foundation provides counseling and helps meet the proper requirements for the children to enter public school.

“Blago” works in close cooperation with the municipal and regional authorities. The charity also distributes humanitarian aid. The head of the foundation Eleonora Kulchar is a member of the interdepartmental committee of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

***The data presented in this infographic is from Ukraine. It is the result of research and monitoring done by REYN Ukraine and its hosting organization Blago Charitable Foundation.***