

# IN-HOUSE CARE FOR THE ELDERLY IN TOWN OF SLAVONSKI BROD THROUGH THE PROJECTS OF EUROPEAN UNION



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## Background

There are 4 284 899 people living in Croatia, 17% of them are older than 65 and 24% of those are living in single-person households. Slavonski Brod is 7<sup>th</sup> biggest town in Croatia and 179<sup>th</sup> according to development with 59 141 residents. 10 089 are older than 65 years, facing reduced mobility, health problems and social isolation. In-home help providers are trying to ameliorate the suffering and improve the quality of life of them. We provide a detailed survey of in-home help organization in the town of Slavonski Brod.

## Material & Methods

Data were collected in the public institutions. Shortened interview was conducted with all the personnel engaged in organization of the in-home care. Project documentation was obtained and analysed.

## Results

In Slavonski Brod public institutions providing in-home help to elderly people are Town's Society of the Red Cross and town of Slavonski Brod.

In-home help providers are tasked with organization of nutrition, doing housework, maintaining hygiene, providing care for the health and other technical chores



Town's society of the Red Cross, through the program "In home help" in 2019, took care of 193 elderly people with health problems and low income. 9 in-home help providers provided 53963 services to the persons in need.

Project of the Red Cross, "Wish-accomplish" employed 55 women from marginalizes sections of the society as in-home help workers. In 2019 they undertook 93 766 hours of services. They distributed 660 packages of hygiene supplies.

Town of Slavonski Brod organised the project "Employed" and 62 women over the age of 50 were employed. Some of them were disabled or victims of domestic violence. They took care for 285 elderly people in the wider urban area of Slavonski Brod.

## Conclusion

- Croatia is dealing with a problem of increasing age of its citizens. Elderly people make up 17% of population. Poverty, disability and social isolation are difficulties facing a large part of the elderly. In-home help providers provide care and support to the elderly people.
- Through the projects of the Ministry of Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy, Social welfare centres and the European Union, in the area of Slavonski Brod, 126 women were employed and care was given to 754 people in need. 193 persons receive assistance based on impaired health and low income. 561 persons receive assistance through European Union Projects.