



# Little Paws



Before deciding on what we should do for our project, we decided to observe the community around us. What we have seen for ourselves was that the Street animals and the animals at the shelters are in dire situations; they are facing cold days, foodless dinners, curable but not cured illnesses and a lack of love. With our project, we decided and aimed to help these poor little guys by raising awareness for them and help them. For this purpose, we searched and found a shelter that is in lack of basic needs such as medication, food, shelter, and funds. After that, we contacted the shelter to confirm what we have observed and speak to them about what we wanted to do. While we were there, we decided to meet our little paws and see for ourselves the situation they were in. We pet the dogs and played with them and even that little of affection made them super happy. After seeing those puppy eyes, we knew we had to help them in one way or another. After that as a group, we decided to meet at least one times a week to decide our timeline and improve and improvise our project in the most efficient way. We chose The Sustainable Development Goals that our project addresses as zero hunger, life on land, and partnerships to achieve the goal since we work as a group and collaborated in order to help animals that suffer from starvation.

To help these animals that are in need; our team firstly decided to assist them on their medical needs because in that shelter there were many ill and quarantined dogs. Firstly, to afford these treatments, operations, and drugs we need to raise funds. For this purpose, we decided to organise some events and a huge concert that many people joined. Our first job was to spread information about our events and to do that we created a website and social media accounts. Then, we realized that we needed a sign that indicated it's our team that does these activities which then became our logo. After that, by a little bit of cooperation with our friends, we formed a band that will play at the concert to provide financial support. In continuance, we designed a ticket that contained our concert's time, date, location, fee, and our logo. Next, to our school environment, we made announcements in person and put up posts on social media about the concert. As a result, after selling our tickets, we raised a total of 3000 Turkish Liras. Our concert received much love and made us proud of what we did. After receiving this money, we thought that we should buy materials and craft shelters; however, after contacting the shelter one more time they told us that they did not have enough space for new shelters so we donated the money directly to them to help for medical purposes. Since they didn't have space, we started a search for a new shelter that we can build. Lucky for us they recommended two shelters that have space available for shelter build. We contacted these new shelters and managed to reach an agreement to help one of them. We were not able to get into contact with the other shelter since they did not respond. Soon after we learned that within the shelter, we agreed with there was a suitable area in which we could build the shelter and hold our event. We learned the price of the required materials and arranged our budget accordingly. We made posters in order to spread the word in our school and with some help from our teachers decided to display the posters on the school announcement televisions.

Also, we designed the huts and obtained information on how many huts would be needed. We asked for assistance from our environment and prepared to hold our event. We asked for some donations from the participants who have volunteered to work with us, thus we were able to further work on our project without passing our budget. We have begun to create the application forms and are planning to send out information on our event on our social media accounts. We connected our bank account to our website in order to gain addition donations from participants and other animal lovers. Through our friend, we got into contact with a firm and they agreed to sponsor us with 1500-2000 Turkish Liras. Using that funding we were able to build our first sample hut which would be further duplicated at the event.

During the course of our project, although we were faced with problems such as communication issues, lack of funding and transportation, we believe that we were able to work on our project without any serious plateaus. We believe that we improved our communication, organization, time management, social interaction, and research skills. We learned to collaborate and work as a team. As for communication, we contacted shelters, sponsors, and friends. This particularly was challenging because many of these people either refused to even respond (which results in us spamming them) or reaching an agreement took time. Our organization skills improved by a lot as well since it is our first time organizing such a big project ourselves. Our schedule is tight therefore we needed to time ourselves as perfect as possible to find a fitting date for our activities. Our social interaction developed naturally as people that come and collaborate with us through social media and our website interact with us in different manners which we have to adapt. Plus, we had to contact with the organisations that have similar goals as us. Anything that we did was continuously develop our research skills as we always have to look up what we are going to do to be perfect and finish the project in the best condition without missing anything if possible. In conclusion, this project has improved us, provided us with amazing experiences and thanks to Global Social Leaders' guidance we learned how to make a more

efficient and effective project.

