

# HUMANED

Policy plan 2018 t/m 2021

NETHERLANDS HUMANITARY ORGANIZATION WITH A CLEAR PURPOSE IN EAST EUROPE. A LOOK IN THE KITCHEN OF THE FOUNDATION.

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## Introduction

*In the introduction we tell you why we create a policy plan as a small foundation. You will meet a small team of people who give help with money and goods as in "help with heart and soul".*

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## Introduction

This plan describes the objectives and actions of our foundation for the coming years. This version of that policy plan aims to make clear what the foundation will do in general in the period 2018-2021. Within this small organization various people turn in every direction to make things work. So far, it goes as desired and at this moment about ten volunteers are active. However, there are things that threaten our foundation. For example, volunteers are slowly getting older. However, functioning of each of the volunteers together can be experienced as an enrichment.



This policy plan is a call to the members of Humaned to look all the same way and work together for an optimal organization. This plan shows the proposals which we, as foundation, have named the terms of our founding act. It shows that we want to work towards strengthening and maintaining quality and re-evaluate the successes of our foundation, its communication, standards and values.

## Description of the foundation Humaned

It is a small humanitarian

organization in foundation form. This is stated in the founding act of 9 August 2000:

"Helping people in disaster or former disaster areas, among other things, in order to have reasonable living circumstances and to be lovingly, capable person in dealing with themselves and towards fellow human beings.

The pursuit of optimal efficiency in bringing together supply and demand. To achieve that efficiency and to make give fitting humanitarian help, an internet site is opened."

It is further described that we also pursue this goal by seeking cooperation with other organizations.



## History

In 2000, the foundation was set up in Westzaan in North Holland. Board members are: Hans Uitdenbogerd (still in office), Bob Romkes, secretary (deceased), Paul Romeijn treasurer and Piet Joor, general board member. The foundation initially had the address of the secretary in Westzaan as a domicile.

### *Why a new foundation?*

Hans Uitdenbogerd already had some experience with helping abroad and especially to the Balkans. Those countries there had not yet cooled down when it turned out that horrific scenes began to turn up: poverty and hunger. During a trip Hans came into contact with Mila Romkes, Bob Romkes' wife. She was a former Yugoslavian who lived in the Netherlands for ten years. The Romkes couple and Hans Uitdenbogerd quickly found themselves in a smaller and more precise form of relief, which was more tailored and demand-oriented. Humaned was founded. The first time volunteers came from the Zaan region.

The initial assistance consisted of collecting aid and other matters that could be exchanged with other aid organizations to achieve our goals. Auxiliary transports were developed on a small scale with some 4x4 jeeps with trailers. The area was initially in northern Croatia in the Krajina area at Donja Dubrava and Kotariba, which is near Varazdin.

There were several foundations active and Humaned soon concentrated on an

organization in Slavonski Bord (Slavic city) in the middle east of Croatia. We came into contact with the Three Angels Foundation (Tri Andela in Croatian), an equally humanitarian organization who helped regardless where you came from or what religion you have.

### **Humanitarian aid to the foundation of the Three Angels in Slavonski Brod**

The Three Angels in Slavonski Brod has since become the contact address for the distribution of humanitarian goods we have brought.

The leadership of this foundation is in the hands of pastor Zdravko Duvnjak. He is assisted by his wife Liljana, his family and their helpers.

### **The construction of Center The Three Angels**

Shortly after the contact with the Three Angels Foundation, they agreed to build a center in which they could carry out all their activities and in which our auxiliaries could be stored until they were distributed to the needy. The upper floor was intended as a living space for the Duvnjak family, the ground floor as a space for ecclesiastical meetings.

We can confirm that in the course of the years we have made a significant contribution to the realisation of new construction in goods and money, thanks to our fantastic sponsors from the Netherlands. We are very proud of that.

The building is now in use, it must only be isolated and finished on the outside. Now there's a lot of heat-loss in the winter. However, the finances for this are lacking both here and there.

### **A plan for a home for elderly people**

Another project of the Three Angels Foundation, with which we have assisted a lot, has been the setting up of a small-scale home for elderly people in the neighbourhood of Slavonski Brod. We have tried in the Netherlands to find finance for this, but we did not succeed. Although they have not yet given up hope, so far, it has not come to fruition. There is also a nice price tag of 6 tons in euros to fund the construction.



### **The auxiliaries**

After the start in 2002, the Humaned Foundation made strong developments. Good relations of the former volunteers laid the foundation for a long and good cooperation with several humanitarian organizations in the region. This also increased the volume of items we could bring to Slavonksi Brod. Sometimes we could even organize, fill and transport a whole full-size truck.

Stormy moments were of course also our part. Changes of board-members, new prime volunteers came to the spotlight.

Over the years it became clear that the aid materials we could obtain were sometimes more than could be received and distributed by the Three Angels foundation. For example: complete and new operating room lighting-units, twenty or more of high / low beds, dozens of blood collection chairs and blood collection equipment. Those materials were offered through the Three Angels to the local hospital, the nursing-home and the local Red Cross. In this way the Three Angels formed a stable foundation in collaboration with these surrounding organizations. In the middle of 2013, 20 major help-aid services went towards Slavonksi Brod.

### **Humaned Foundation changes its field of activity**

On July 1, 2013, Croatia joined the European Union. This meant in practice that customs papers had not to be made anymore, which caused us a lot of work before.

However, after our last major transport to Slavonksi Brod in 2013, we learned that the Three Angels wanted to stop receiving large amounts of relief goods. Clothing, for example, was now available for small prices in the many Chinese shops that opened up in the city. Also, when our items were brought to other organizations, too much time and fuel was used. They would rather spend this on their own activities, given at the Center.

If there were specific help questions, they hoped they would be able to ask us for help again. So that made us feel that improvements had occurred among the local people and that we had helped them through a difficult period.

What were we supposed to do? As a group we were very well-matched and we just did not want to stop. We were used to collecting, storing and removing goods. We decided to continue collecting good clothes, bedding and so on - we have many loyal sponsors - and so we were pleased to give our collected goods to the friendly foundation Promotion in Heerhugowaard, which is doing so well in Romania and Bulgaria.

Shortly thereafter a new project was making itself visible.

### **Visiting lonely elderly people in the Krajina area, Croatia**

We heard from one of our core members that René Pronk, the son of a friendly relation, left for the Krajina in 2013 together with his wife Helga and

son Dieter. René was for many years a pastor of the Salvation Army in the Netherlands. He had decided to continue his work outside the church walls in Croatia. Then we made our first contact.

Now, 4 years later (2017) René Pronk built a new life with his family in Croatia. In addition to his work as a renowned photographer, René visits one week a week, with two loyal volunteers, in the Krajina area lonely elderly's. The addresses come from the Red Cross.

The Krajina is a completely forgotten area in Croatia, located on the western border of Bosnia. In the civil war many Serb residents fled and mainly the elderly returned. Previously, there were more than half a million people, now there are no more than 60,000 (only 12%). You will therefore see many vacant, dilapidated houses. For the elderly, those visits are the most valued things they can imagine. They sometimes live "mother-tongue tied" alone and in very remote places. During such a visit, we always take along a food package for those people. The amount of elderly's visited yearly has passed the 150 mark easily.



Early January 2014, four people from Humaned joined René and his first-time volunteer Zorica for the first time. It was the heart of winter and the snow was high.

In June of that year, five persons of our group accompanied them again when visiting some 25 elderly and two dependent families.

It felt good to go with them. We continued it and expanded our visits - besides the food package - by bringing clothes (we even know their sizes!), footwear, blankets, sheets and more needed stuff.

We have built a close relationship with René Pronk and his family and helpers. Our support feels good. Our intentions are to keep doing this twice a year: In Christmas and Easter, a Christmas-package and Easter-package are included, thanks to our great sponsor!

In the meantime we will keep in touch with the people of the Centre in Slavonski Brod.

Contact - after a couple of years - with the Center The Three Angels in Slavonski Brod has been given a follow-up. There was a request from a midwife from the hospital for baby-clothing via the Center. There was also an urgent need for an operating-lamp in the delivery-room. We started sending baby clothes packages by land-post, in April 2017 there was a renewed visit. This visit was combined with the Humaned group with went to the Krajina. It was nice for both parties to see each other again.

We visited the hospital and a rehabilitation center for mentally handicapped children. We also

ordered the requested operating lamp. The daughter of the Duvnjak family starts a kindergarten in the center in September. We will continue to follow the family and their activities and support them if necessary.

### **Our strengths and weaknesses**

#### *Continuity in our foundation*

The Humaned Foundation is stable with the current board-members and its volunteers. She has support in the society in the Netherlands and is highly appreciated in Croatia.

The atmosphere in the foundation is excellent. Adult attitudes, scope for participation and consensus in practise.

#### *What are our qualities?*

Within the limitations of possibilities maximum performance.

#### *What are our weaknesses?*

Such a small group of board-members and executives and volunteers, would severely be delayed or slowed down with the loss of some members or even one.

#### *What are our chances?*

Through our size and composition of our volunteers, we are flexible in thinking and implementation.

#### *What are our threats?*

Loss of knowledge from leaving board-members and primary-volunteers.

Insufficient new volunteers.

### **Organization**

Humaned consists of the following board members:

Chairman: Hans Uitdenbogerd,  
Oterleek

Secretary: Harma Baak, Wormer

Treasurer: Paul Versloot, Purmerend  
General board-member: Marina Molenaars, Purmerend (clothing collection)

#### Prime volunteers:

Walter van Abswoude, Noordwijk aan Zee. Organises transports and collections.

Arie Baak, Wormer. Accounting.

Peet Nulkes, Noordwijkerhout. Self-employed driver with his own transport options and collects.

In addition, there are six permanent and four volunteers, mostly active in transport and vehicle loading.

### **Finance**

Money is obtained from donations and donors. The foundation has never been in the negative for a year in its entire existence. Twice a year (Christmas and Easter) the foundation receives a gift of a humanitarian organization to spend on food packages for needy elderly people in Croatia.

### **Rewards policy**

Humanitarian transports are always fully financed by the Humaned volunteers themselves and those who travel and sponsors who come along. Once a year, the foundation holds a flea market on "Kingsday", the proceeds of which are intended to co-finance a subsequent transport. Would you like to take a trip or possibly contribute in another way, or make transportation available, drive yourself with an equipe? Contact one of the board members.



**Mission and vision**

Now that we have clearly chosen to continue our way of working, we can continue on the same footing as before and do the things we are good at: delivering tight fitted help-services, well in line with the request from the Balkans.

We are aware of the "Hazards on our ways" and realize that with our little team, we decisively can make a difference to many needy people, quite clearly. Because in this way we are giving other help-teams in Croatia, a greater wingspan and strength, and so we can maintain our goals.

Dutch humanitarian foundation with a clear task in Eastern Europe

**"GIVING HELP MAKES YOU FEEL GOOD"**

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