Results

Revenue

In 2014 the income for the Off Road Kids Foundation amounted to € 1,572,112. The majority of this income came from donations from major donors. General donations contributed a share of 36% (€ 560,268). Donations in kind amounted to € 106,459. Monetary donations grew by 8 percent overall (€ 111,981). The Off Road Kids Foundation did receive € 9,615 state grants.

Total expenditure

The Foundation’s spending amounted to € 1,577,842 in 2014, 8 percent more than in 2013. This was due to the increased running costs of the four Street Social Work Stations, a low occupancy rate in the children’s home (prompted by the manner in which the youth welfare offices deal with 18-year-old children in care homes, an approach criticised by the Off Road Kids Foundation) and pending repairs and investments in the children’s home.

Street social work & Flex distance teaching programme

Through the operative use of its funds, in 2014 the Off Road Kids Foundation was able to facilitate new, viable life perspectives to a total of 377 runaways, street children and young homeless people (2013: 246 / 2012: 354 / 2011: 321). The costs for assisting each young person amounted to € 2,489 (2013: € 2,661 / 2012: € 2,452 / 2011: € 2,763).

Children’s homes

The Foundation’s children’s home provided care to eight young people and young adults in 2014. The monthly foundation contribution per young person in care amounted to € 2,286 in 2014 (calculated on the basis of the children’s home running costs incl. administration cost less the income from statutory care payments). Advertising activities were carried out among all the youth welfare offices in Baden-Württemberg aimed at improving the occupancy rate of the children’s home. Nevertheless it was clearly evident that the youth welfare offices were pursuing a restrained placement policy due to the Off Road Kids Foundation’s emphatic criticism of the risky transition-to-independence practices implemented in relation to 18-year-old children in care homes. Three successful high-school graduates left the children’s home in 2014!

Scholarship programme

In 2014, young people formerly in care received academic scholarships amounting to € 2,150 funded by earmarked donations.

University Institute for Pedagogic Management (IfPM)

The year 4 students successfully completed their Bachelor programmes at the Institute for Educational Management; two other years are currently in the middle of their studies. The start of the new year was postponed to 2015. The Foundation’s monthly contribution amounted to € 114 per student in 2014 and was entirely financed from earmarked donations. Targeted advertising campaigns ultimately resulted in two fully subscribed classes and in reducing the monthly contribution by one half.

Kids-Camp

The DB Kids-Camp 2014 saw 60 children and young people from German children’s homes awarded an extraordinary week-long holiday in Bad Dürnhem in the Black Forest in recognition of their outstanding academic achievements at school and commitment to social issues. The Deutsche Bahn Foundation fully reimbursed the additional costs incurred by the Off Road Kids Foundation (€ 73,142).

Management and administration

The Foundation’s management and administration costs totalled € 82,782 in 2014 (2013: € 35,591). This corresponds to 5.6% of the total monetary expenditure. The increase was primarily down to IT investments made within the Street Social Work Stations and the administration, as well as the production of the bi-annual Foundation Report.

Summary

The Off Road Kids Foundation’s operative youth welfare activities are run very successfully and efficiently and are of a high standard. The number of young people successfully assisted was stably maintained at a high level. This is particularly true of the street-based social work. From a pedagogic perspective the children’s homes are working extremely successfully, but need to become financially stronger. The occupancy rate in the children’s home should increase again. The Bachelor course available to experienced educators without university entrance qualifications can boast its second fully subscribed year. Another fully subscribed class was achieved by postponing the start of the course to 2015.

Once again there was a large increase in the contribution of general donations to the total income earned from donations. However, a (permanent) contribution from the public authorities to financing the street-based social work appears overdue. The operative activities are currently mainly funded by major donors. It remains the case that the loss of just one donor would have a huge effect on the Foundation’s ability to function. The reserves carried forward from the previous year were initially disbursed due to higher outlays and lower income from donations, but these were replenished over the course of the year. The programme for the consolidation and securing of the system pursued since 2012 has proven to be expedient, all the more so in view of the salary increases given to employed social workers, a move made for strategic reasons in the light of the employment market situation.

Comment

In recent years, the Off Road Kids Stiftung has assumed all the operative areas of Off Road Kids e.V. (street social work, children’s homes, parents’ hotline). The Foundation has also established a part-time Bachelor course for pedagogic personnel without university entrance qualifications. For the purposes of clearly separating the Foundation’s young persons’ assistance funding from those assigned to the degree course, the decision was taken to establish „Off Road Kids Jugendhilfe gGmbH“ and the „Institut für Pädagogikmanagement gGmbH“ under the umbrella of the Foundation, Off Road Kids Stiftung. 2011 was the first year in which all the restructuring measures had been fully completed.