



**Annual
Report
2014**

Who we are

CORPluS was founded in 2012 as a legacy organization of Peace Corps Bulgaria. The mission of **CORPluS** is to help enhance individual and group potential and expand the capacity of Bulgarian communities through the continuation of innovative programs in education and development, modeled on Peace Corps Bulgaria initiated projects and activities. We achieve that through our two main projects: Bulgarian National Spelling Bee Competition and Bulgarian National Creative Writing Competition.



The Bulgarian National English Spelling Bee was initiated in 2011 by two former Peace Corps volunteers. The competition is open to students from 3rd to 7th grade from the whole country. In February we organized four trainings for the teacher-coordinators in Sofia, Veliko Tarnovo and Stara Zagora. The workshops focused on the use of innovative and interactive methods in the classroom. This year more than 6400 students from 264 schools took part in the school competitions between the 10th and 15th of March. The 1st and 2nd place winners from the school bees participated in the 10 regional bees in Sofia, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Veliko Tarnovo, Sliven, Ruse, Vratsa and Varna on April 12th. The top 3 students from each regional competition advanced to the national final which was held in Hilton Hotel on May 10th. This year the Spelling Bee Champion was the 6th grader Katerina Petrova from Sofia. The 30 national qualifiers and their teachers attended a week long English language Spelling Bee summer camp in Bansko where they participated in a variety of fun and educational activities. The competition aims to strengthen the English language skills of Bulgarian students by improving their vocabulary use and pronunciation, and making them more confident to present in front of an audience. The project is realized in partnership with America for Bulgaria Foundation, the United States Embassy and the Ministry of Education and Science.





bulgarian creative writing competition

The Bulgarian Creative Writing Competition was initiated in 2011 as the International Writing Olympics. The competition is open to students from 6th to 12th grade that have one hour to respond to one of several creative, unusual themes. In 2014 more than 4000 students from 180 schools from the whole country expressed their creative thoughts on the 9th and 10th of February. Some of this year's topics were: "When socks disappear, where do they go?", "If rain was a person, what sort of person would it be?", "Is the fish mute or does it not speak because it knows everything", etc. All the essays were judged by four regional panels (teachers, writers, native English speakers, and specialists) on February 22nd in Sofia, Plovdiv and Blagoevgrad to select the top four essays from each grade level. The finalist essays were chosen on March 22nd by the national jury. The three finalists from each grade level and their teachers were invited to the awards ceremony at the American University in Blagoevgrad on April 26th and participated in creative writing workshops led by university professors. The goal of the competition is to encourage students to write creatively and think "outside the box". The project is made possible with the support of the United States Embassy and the Ministry of Education and Science. Additionally, on November 21st we organized a three-day workshop for 40 teachers on innovative English language teaching techniques and creative writing. The results from the evaluation showed that teachers' increased confidence will affect positively the quality of their work and we expect their students to be more active and motivated in learning English.

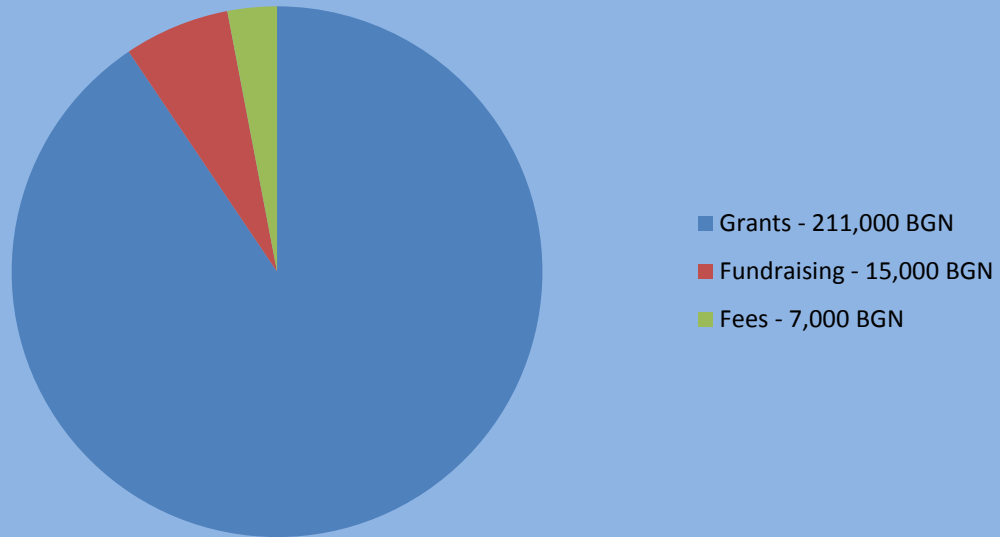


Our partners:



Financial Report

Annual revenue 2014 - 233,000 BGN



Annual expenses 2014 - 221,000 BGN

