### 6th International Foster Care Network Conference

# IMPLEMENTING OF ELETRONIC SYSTEM AS A SUPPORT FOR FOSTER CARE DEVELOPMENT

- Unique database -

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Center for foster care and adoption worked on developing software for Unique database (in the period of 2010.-2011.) together with Save the Children
Center for foster care and adoption established database for the areas where it performes its activities:

- 1. City of Belgrade,
- 2. Mačva district and
- 3. Kolubara district
- around **1.000. children** are placed here.

# PROBLEM WE TRIED TO SOLVE WITH THIS PROGRAM

There is no records regarding foster care at the state level in Serbia – The Rule book on foster care from 2008. and new Law on Social protection from 2011. issued Keeping the unique database of foster care.

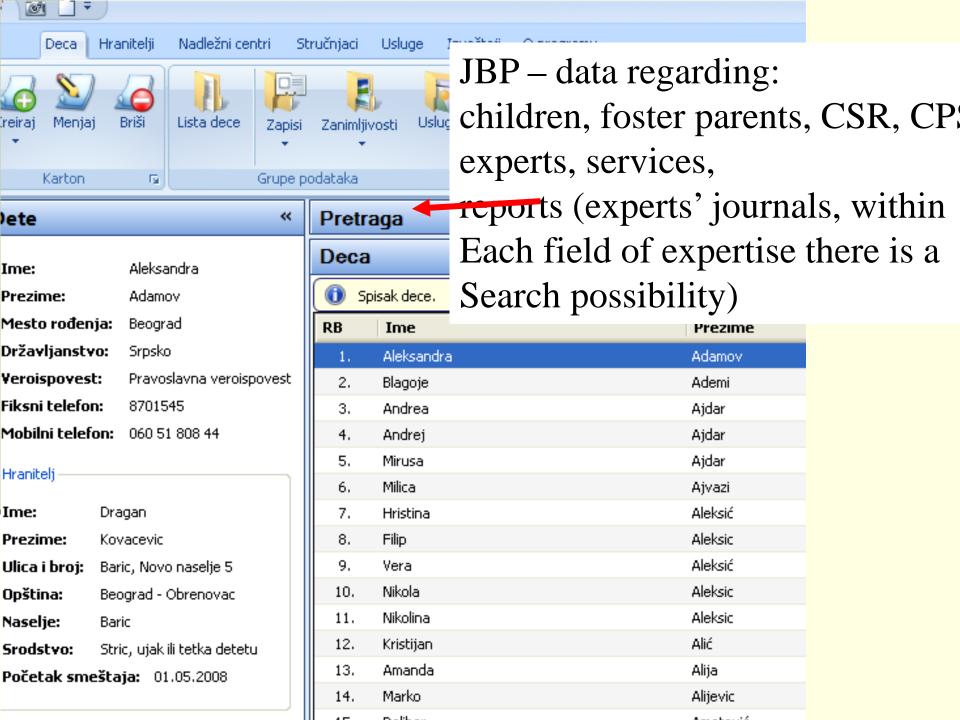
The process of defining the purpose of this base and what it should look like is still in progress.

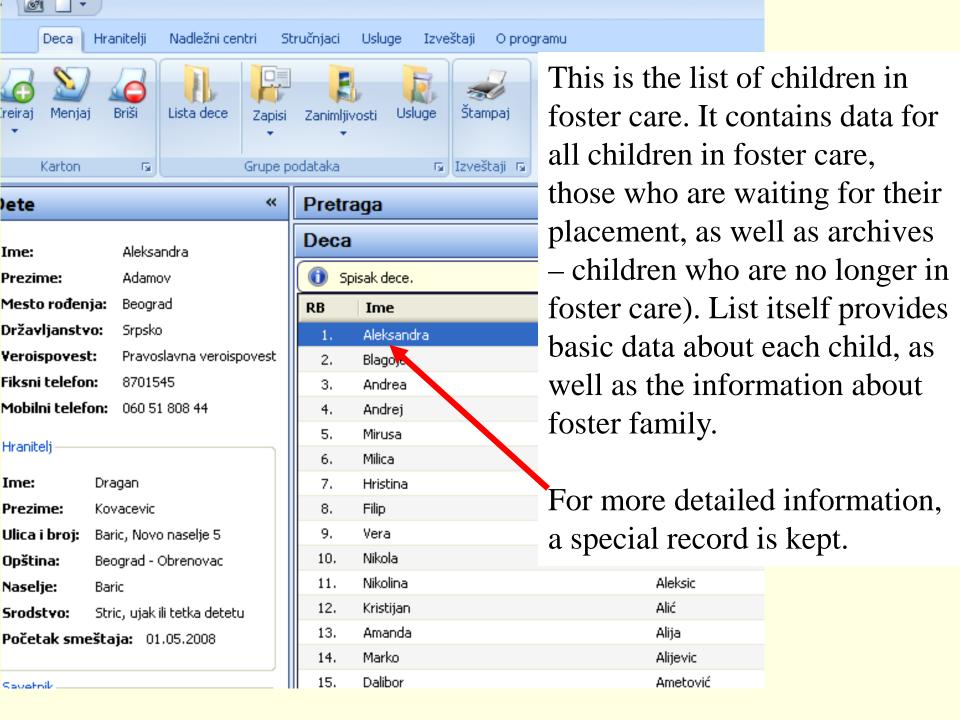
### **AIM:**

 Support the development of foster care in Serbia and the advancement of monitoring the needs of children And foster families

#### **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

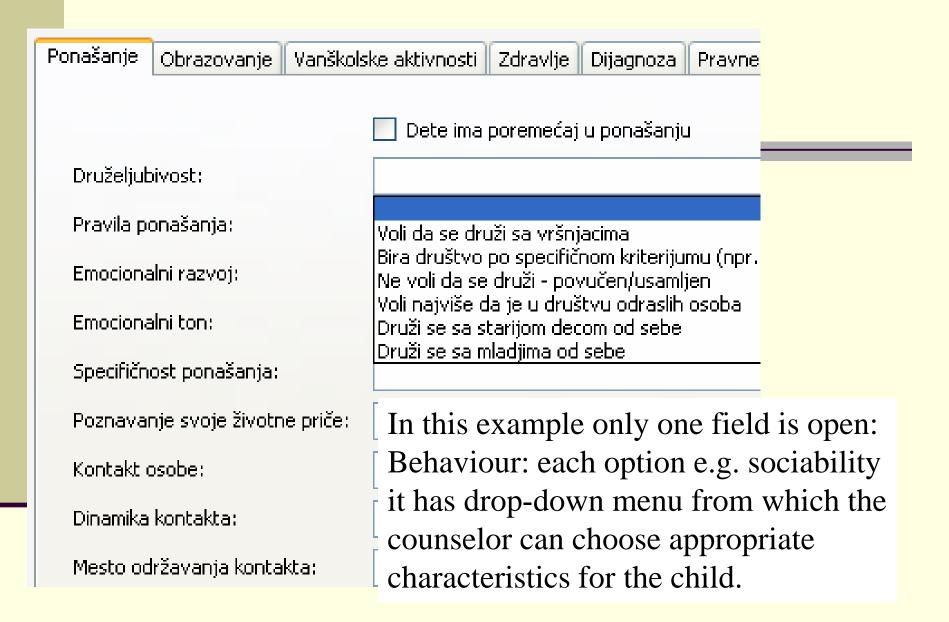
- Keeping the records regarding foster care;
- permanent data storage;
- Continuous monitoring of development of children in foster care;
- Development of appropriate services for supportin children and Foster families;
- Monitoring the work and results of employees working in Foster care;
- establishing the unique register of foster families in Serbia



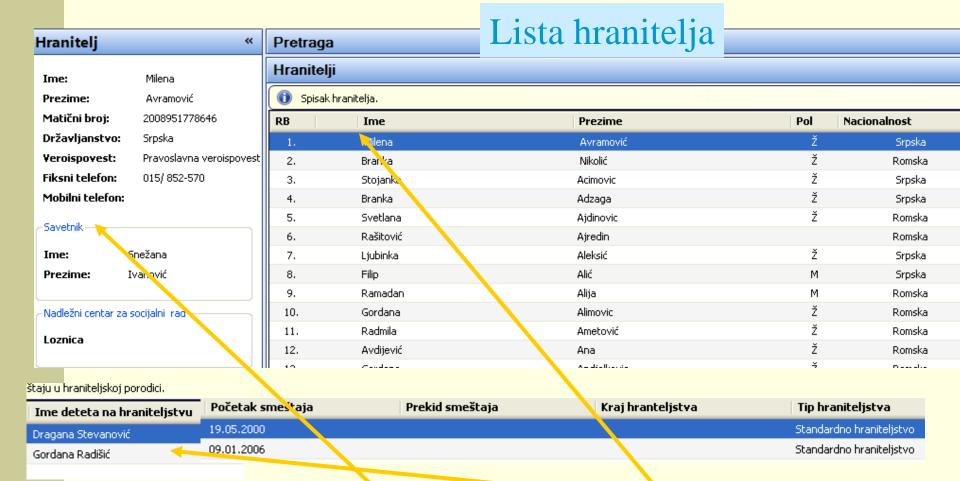




We monitor: behaviour, education, extracurricular activities, headiagnosis, legislation, parents, history, brothers and sisters, etc.

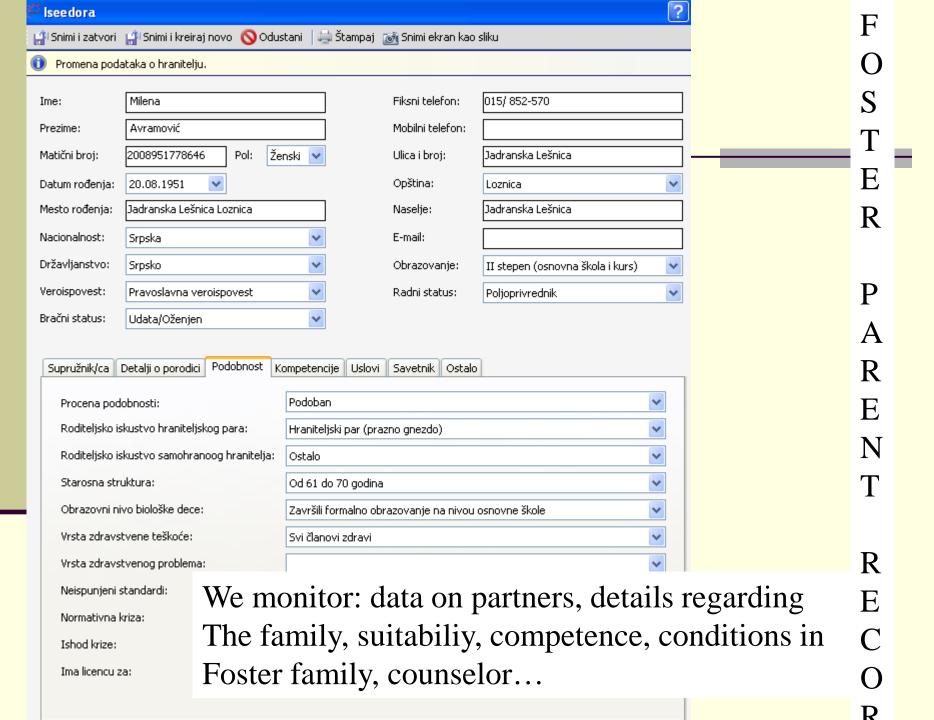


Only part of child's record is shown



When the cursor is places on a certain name of foster parent, all the data Regarding the children under his/her care (both past and present) can be seen, as well as the basic data on foster family, name of the counselor Assigned to the family.

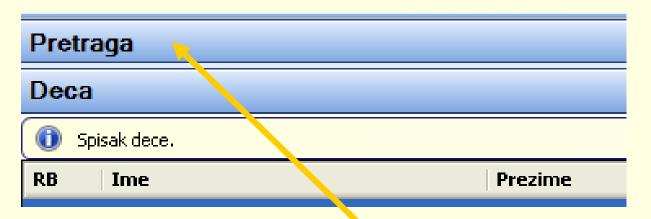
More data can be seen once the family record is opened.



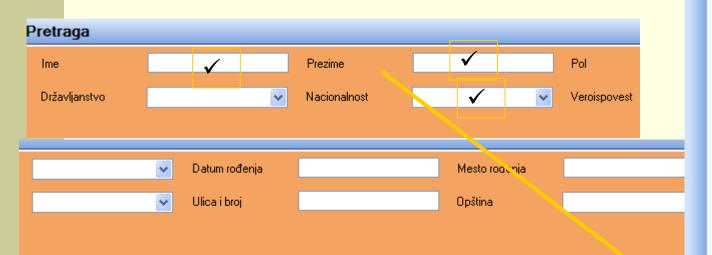
Supružnik/ca Detalji o porodici Podobnost	Kompetencije Uslovi Savetnik Ostalo			
Procena podobnosti:	Podoban			
Roditeljsko iskustvo hraniteljskog para:	Hraniteljski par (prazno gnezdo)			
Roditeljsko iskustvo samohranoog hranitelja	1:			
Starosna struktura:	Od 61 do 70 godina			
Obrazovni nivo biološke dece:	Završili formalno obrazovanje na nivou osnovne škole			
Vrsta zdravstvene teškoće:	Svi članovi zdravi			
Vrsta zdravstvenog problema:				
Neispunjeni standardi:				
Normativna kriza:				
Ishod krize:				

Example of a foster parent's record: Suitability

The Unique base provides wide range of indicators, which show the changes within children, strenghtening The competences of foster families and development of Supporting services for children and foster families.



Monitoring of children's development and competence Development of foster parents is possible by using the SEARCH – where all children, foster parents or Specific service can be found.



### How to use SEARCH:

The command for listing the children with some or all data is given, and some other criteria can be taken into consideration from the list on the right. Basicly, these are all the data that are Written in the records of each child.

The same is possible for foster parents, or services.

Emocionalni ton Fizički razvoj Intelektualni razvoi Kontakt osobei Mesto održavanja kontakta Način održavanja ličnih odnosa Porodični status Posebni rezultati Poznavanje svoje životne priče Pravila ponašanja Prestanak hraniteljstva Prethodno prebivalište Promena uspeha Promene vladanja Promenjeni porodični status Razvojne smetnje Ritam obrazovanja Samozaštitne sposobnosti Samozaštitne sposobnosti napi Skolski uzrasti Specifična stanja i oboljenja Specifičnosti ponašanja Sredina iz koje dolazi Status obrazovanja Tip starateljstva Troskovi smestaja Uzrok smrti Vladanje

Dinamika kontakta Druželjubivost

Emocionalni razvoj

For crossing the data

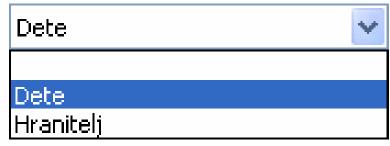
The GENERATOR is used.

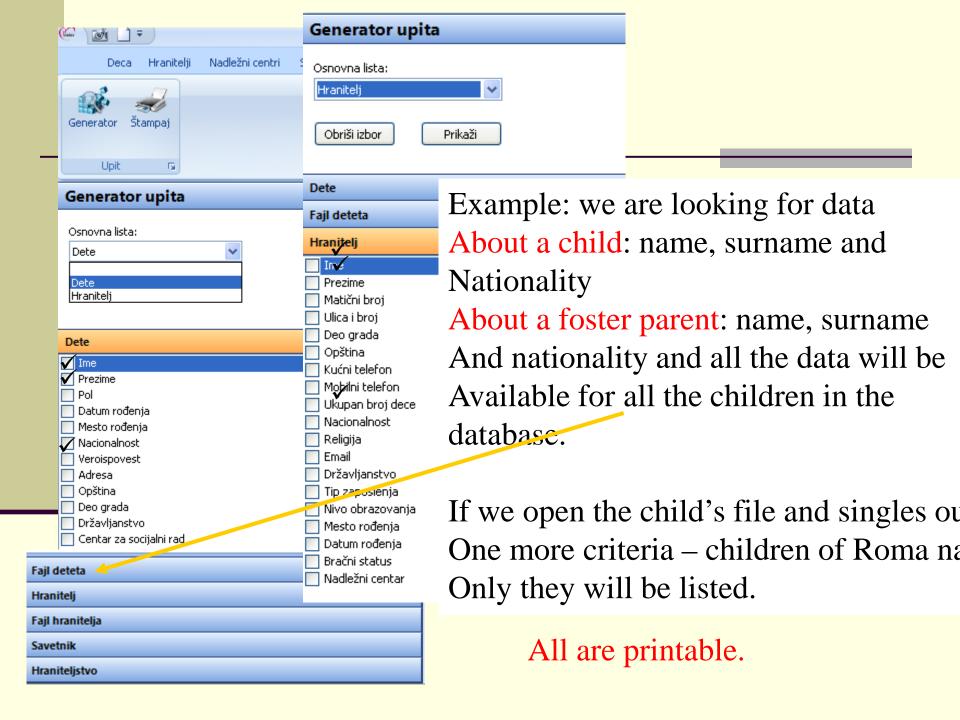
It provides research and getting the specific data about the conditions in which Children are growing up, fast.

Generator

For example – the data regard the children with lower school achievements and their characteristics as well as the characteristics of Their families can be shown.







### The effects of implementing the database

Fast search of the existing documents,

- Better insight of the possibilities and needs of foster families;
- Monitoring of the state of the child in foster care;
- Easier and faster insight into the child's needs and prompt reaction to the changes
- Insight into resources of potential foster families and current situation within the existing foster families;
- Getting the data on number of children divided on various characteristics which provides wider insight;
- Getting the data on materializing the rights of children and foster parents;
- Insight into protection plans and provided services for children and foster parents;
- Monitoring the deadlines for issuing and extending the licence;
- Insight into available foster families and their characteristics and faster providing of foster families...



ELAYS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION AMONG CHILDREN

### DELAYS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION AMONG CHILDREN

71. CHILDREN

2011. YEAR

WE ARE FACING SERIOUS LEARNING PROBLEMS

**ACTIVITIES FOR IMPROVING SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS** 



### **BAD RESULTS IN SCHOOL**

**BACKGROUND** 

SELF-IMAGE

FOSTER PARENTS
COMPETENCES

SUPPORTING SERVICES

INDICATORS OF NUMEROUS DIFFICULTIES IN CHILD'S DEVELOPMENT

# Structure of children based on nationality

	nationality	Number of children	0/0
1.	Roma	46	64,7
2	Serbian	23	32,5
3.	Albanian	2	2,8
4.	In total	71	100

#### OTHER IMPORTANT CHARACTERISTICS

- ➤ Emotional development 35. dece 49,2% with malfunction Emotional attachment
- > 27 families are kinship families 38%
- ➤ 31 children experienced severe forms of abuse 43,6%, 5 were sexually abused.
- $\triangleright$  Agressive behaviour 7. children 9,9%.
- $\triangleright$  psychiatric treatment in the case of 6. children or 8,5%.
- ➤ Not completely developed competences for foster care 17 families 24%

#### **MEANS OF SUPPORT**



- ADVISORY WORK WIT FOSTER FAMILIES COUNSELOR FOR FAMILY
- COOPERATION WITH SCHOOL COUNSELOR FOR FAMILY
- HELP WITH LEARNING VOLUNTEERS
- ESTABLISHING A PLAN FOR IMPROVING THE SUCCESS RATE
- COUNSELOR AND FOSTER FAMILY
- EDUCATION OF FOSTER PARENTS GROUP WORK WITHIN THE CENTER
- EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS

# ren's success in the semeter and in the end of the year with provided support

success	semester	%	End of the	%
			year	
excellent	0		2	2,8
Very good	11	15,5	24	33,8
good	20	28,2	30	42,2
sufficient	4	5,6	5	7,1
insufficient	27	38	1	1,4
descriptive	9	12,7	9	12,7
<b>(I)</b>	7			
In total	71	100	71	100

### 27. Is has insufficient success, 9 children isn't ready

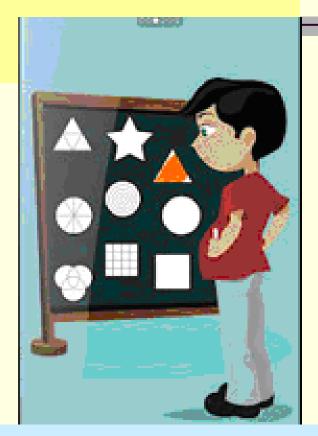
To start school,11 is very good and 12 good. From certain subjects the The grades are lower and they show resistance towards school.

### Children's general success compared with previous year

success	Same success	Better success	Worse	In total	9/0
excellent	1	1		2	2,8
Very good	12	10	2	24	33,8
good	18	10	2	30	42,2
sufficient	1	3	1	5	7,1
insufficient			1	1	1,4
descriptive (I)		9		9	12,7
In total	32	32	6	71	100

45% children succeeded to maintain last year's success, 45% children achieved better results,

a 8% have lower success rate.



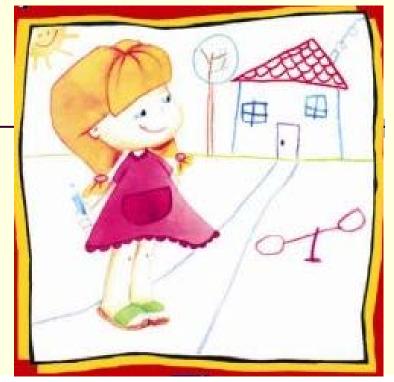
If we take the overall circumstances – exceptional resuct with multiple effects

Volunteers are students or graduates faculties of human sciences, Young people who underwent the process of preparation and training for this task

While working with children various methods were used – Specific experiences, delays in development and void in knowledge Required creating different methodology regarding the work with Children and young people. It leaned in a way on the well-known Techniques ant methods, and in other way on volunteers' creativity.

Volunteers have used many playing activities, in order to make the subjects More familiar, as well as to provide support for the task well done The work of volunteers was supervized by the families' counselors.

From the volunteer's report



"Each child we've met left us with ever-lasting impression in a lives, as we have done the same for them. We've established a Connection on different levels, we have shared worries and Happy moments, and we did our best to point out not just The success they achieved, but also the temptations/obstacles That they may encounter while growing up and in life."

# Results in different subjects when the students recieved volunteers' help

subject	Grade at the beginning number			beginning number			d		
grades	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5
English	8	6	1	0	0	9	3	3	0
Serbian	14	15	3	0	0	16	13	4	
Maths	24	18	3	2	2	26	16	1	2
Physics	1		2		1	2	1	2	
Geography	5					4	1		
French	2					1	1		
In total	54	39	9	2	3	58	35	10	2

The children started with 54 bad marks, mostly from Maths And Serbian, and the school year was finished only with 3 Lowest marks (2 from Maths and one from Physics).

Most of children got sufficient (58) and good (35) marks but The number of very good marks has improved and two Excellent marks were also given.

This excellent result which isn't only shown in the higher mark and better overall school success but also in the following:

- -Children started to believe in themselves and they changed self-image;
- their self-esteem has improved;
- they gained working habits;
- they had a better integration whitin school and social
- -environment.

# **Counselor's support for family**

Advisory work with foster family – meetings in the family	Making the learning plan – number of children	Meetings in school
502	39	29

- Each family had average 7,1 visits from their counselor And advisory work
- For 39 or 55% of children full learning plan was developed In order to improve school achievements.
- -For 49 (69%) of children regular meetings in schools were held

### **Training for foster parents**

Number of programs	Number of foster families	Total amount of trainings
One program	4	4
Two programs	26	52
Three programs	23	69
Four programs	3	12
Five programs	5	25
In total	61	162*

These families have participated in the total amount of 162 training programs that lasted from 5 to 10 hours. Most of the families have undergone programs from the following fields: upbringing, Discipline, behaviour shaping, self-esteem, identity, standards And so on.

# SUCCESS OF THOSE CHILDREN WHO RECIEVED ALL FORMS OF SUPPORT

Success at the end of semester and	Number of children
school year	
insufficient-insufficient	0
insufficient – sufficient	8
Insufficient - good	7
insufficient – very good	1
sufficient – sufficient	1
good – good	2
Good – very good	2
very good – very good	1
very good - excellent	2
In total	24

All children have improved their success in school

Name of counselor	Number of children	help	plan	training	
T.Tomašević	19	4	2	41	
J. Kovačević	34	9	-	78	
G. Obradović	29	4	14	47	
V. Jovandić	26	2	4	47	
A.Simić	21	8	1	37	
G. Maletić	11	5	1	26	
L. Popović	22	11	3	35	
V. Radojčić	22	7	2	43	
C. Ugrčić	21	14	3	37	
S. Maksimović	22	7	2	44	
K. Kević	30	5	16	57	
L. Skrobić	17			39	
Ukupno	274	76	48	531	

Name of counselor	excellent	Very good	good	sufficient	repeated
T. Tomašević	1	10	7	1	-
J. Kovačević	13	9	7	3	1
G. Obradović	9	13	6		
Vl. Jovandić	6	12	5	2	
A. Simić	3	7	7		4
G. Maletić		4	4	3	
Lj. Popović	8	6	8	2	
V. Radojčić	6	9	5	3	
C. Ugrčić	3	2	10	3	1
Sv. Maksimović	3	2	16	1	
K. Kević	9	7	10	2	
Lj. Skrobić	1	10	5	1	
IN TOTAL	62	91	90	21	6

These are results for all children in foster care in 2012.

There are 270 school children in Belgrade. 23% of that number Are excellent students, 33,7% are very good, 33.3. good, 7,7% with sufficient success and i 2,2% repeated the grade

Detailed analysis of overall counselor's work and children's success Provides us with an insight and we can conclude that the children's Success is in correlation with the work of counselors.

### Comparative analysis

### School success among children in foster care in %

success	2009	2011	2012	+/-
excellent	20,9	20,8	23	+
Very good	27,9	37,6	33,7	+
good	28,3	26,2	33,7	+
sufficient	19,6	12,3	7,7	-
Repeated the same grade	3,9	2,9	2,2	-

### Instead of conclusion:

We are sure that further use of this database, will before every other possibility, contribute the prompt indroduction of those Services that children and families need in order to improve the Quality of children protection so that each Child fulfills its own potential.

# THANK YOU

