



Hódmezővásárhely Megyei Jogú Város  
Polgármestere

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**Pier Giorgio Oliveti**  
**Secretary General**  
**CITTASLOW INTERNATIONAL Headquarters**  
**Italy**

*Dear Pier Giorgio Oliveti,*

*Thank you for your letter and I am also sending my greetings from Hungary, from Hódmezővásárhely. I hope you and your colleagues are in good health. Sorry for the late answer but we had lot of things to do in the last few weeks because of the virus.*

*Unfortunately the Covid-19 virus is strongly present in our country, city, causing big difficulties for our citizens and our economy as well.*

*To our city management is essential to inform and help our citizens, mainly the older ones, over 65, who are the most endangered, and those people who had lost their workplace.*

*These required tasks were given to the local government by the state government: - care about people over 70; - care about those ones who are quarantined by the authority.*

*On behalf of the protection of the local people we have made other actions as follows:*

- a local operation team with special authorities and apparatus have been created, where we weekly discuss the current state of the virus and further actions*
- 100 million HUF were separated for the protection from our budget*
- public catering was organized*
- bigger events, performances and sport programs were cancelled*
- the opening time of the cityhall and other institutes have been reduced for the clients and other visitors and they were asked to manage their cases online*
- we care about our old citizens who are living in community home not to be endangered because of Covid-19*
- we give the chance to our workers to work in home office*

- we give other work for people who lost their job because of this virus situation and 25 % salary is given to our employee who can not work because they must stay home with their children (their labour relation has not been changed)
- the schools, kindergartens and playgrounds are closed, but daycare for small groups is available
- our market place was reorganized to be sufficient for the regulations
- local aid organizations were collected and we are ready to help everybody when the number of the needy would be increased
- with the help of volunteers the shopping is being done and the food is taken to elder people whose family can not help them
- our volunteers are sewing washable masks
- 20.000 normal masks were bought and portioned out for our workers (health care workers, government officers and volunteers etc.)
- the members of the local government are giving provision for needy people for free and they are raising money for poor people
- the citizens are usually informed about the virus situation, the protection and actions with the help of posters, leaflets, Internet and our Media centre. There is a webpage where all of the useful information can be found (for example the list of companies who are dealing with home delivery)
- information signs have been put to the excursion places to warn people not to go close to each other and not to band together
- all of our buildings are constantly sterilized

Unfortunately our budget is not supported by the Hungarian state what causes big problems for us in the future.

But hopefully these actions are going to be successful, and we are getting over this hard period soon and can return to our normal life.

Wishing you all the best,

**Yours sincerely,**



**Dr. Péter Márki-Zay**

**the mayor of the city Hódmezővásárhely**

**Hungary, Hódmezővásárhely, 20th April 2020.**

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