

Łódź, 25th of July 2019

**Fundacja Dziewczynka z zapałkami**

29 Gdańska street, 90-715 Łódź

Poland

4842 6328387

[www.dzz.org.pl](http://www.dzz.org.pl)

**An Open Letter from The Match Girl To The Mayor of Łódź Hanna Zdanowska**

Dear Mayor Zdanowska,

The Little Match Girl sincerely invites You to join our Fabulous Teddy Bears Protest. We ask you to sign our petition and buy the Fabulous Matches.

Here - in your city - the Fabulous Fund has formed. It was made to help children, which is why it owes its name to the famous tale by Hans Christian Andersen. The Fund has met with a wave of sympathy from Łódź citizens (and many other cities). "The Girl" has started to reach many cities as "she" started to sell her matches in many malls and stores. The organization became one of the most involved in children's support in 2008. All of this was possible because we were able to rent the venue on 29 Gdanska street. We made it a Children Centre and it was used by many thousands of kids. Not only from Łódź, but from many cities all over Poland. The children loved our Fabulous Castle - the common rooms, the hostels, the study halls. They could study, have meals, have their asylum there.

It seemed as the light lit by the match on the Gdańska street was to warm more and more frozen hands. Yet, the match went out. In 2010 it was announced that the building was a direct danger to the health and life of people and the fund was not informed about it by the City Council. It has been 9 years since it was announced not for the use of people, and as of today, the venues could have been used by over 17 thousand kids.

For the last 9 years the Fund has been trying to renew the work of the Children Centre, but it requires an extremely costly reconstruction. Thanks to the donors, the givers - the friends of The Match Girl, The Fund was able to conduct about 50% of the labors. For the last 50% of work to be done we need to make an arrangement and let The Match Girl buy the venues on the 29 Gdanska street.

The final eviction is scheduled for the 21st of August 2019. Despite the multimillion damage case going on in the appeals court, Your office wants to divest the fund of its residence. It was not during your term that the venue on 29 Gdanska street was confided to The Fund, but it looks like during your term The Match Girl could become rootless and undoubtedly you should prevent that from happening. You, as the mayor, have a huge endorsement of the Łódź citizens. They surely would want the fund to be saved. It was The Fund's place of stay since 2007 and the Teddy bears and our whole team has started to protest in the face of this tragedy.

It has been 3 years since the Teddy Bears have started to protest against the poor treating of our match girl. It has been 200 years from when the tale was made and is just so sad the people are so indifferent to the story and what it represents. Today we are banned from selling our matches in the shops and

malls. The fund that is patronized by The Little Match Girl is now unable to execute its goal - helping kids. Now we are waiting for you Mayor.

For The Girl to be able to continue with her mission, the Teddy Bears have started to collect the signatures under the Fabulous petition targeted at the Managing Directors and Governors of the malls. We would like to start selling our matches in the shopping centers again. That would help us collect the money needed to buy the Fabulous Castle again.

The Match Girl asks you from the bottom of her heart to consider the request. She asks you to have a place here, in your city. The Girl is known all around the world, yet, here she is. We should not ignore that.

How will that make us feel, if we will not save The Match Girl. If we sentence her to be rootless and freeze. The way we act in this case is going to be symbolic. We can all gain or lose. It is on each of us. We can make the world a safer, life-friendly place. Mayor, we can do it together. Lets save our Little Match Girl. The world is waiting.

The Match Girl would like to thank you in advance for positive consideration of her request. All the best from The Girl, her friends and, of course, the Teddy Bears.

**We encourage you to join us in our Teddy Bears protest.  
No for exclusion - Yes for acceptance. Yes for "The Match Girl".**

Excluded from the most of the malls in the country "The Match Girl" is banned from selling matches. Although she was present there for a number of years operating its primary activity - raising money for the kids.

Excluded from the access to the Children Centre made by the fund which is now the cause of the 25-million damage case against The City Council going on in the appeals court. The venue has remained empty for the last 9 years. The City Council wants to evict the Fund and the Fund wants to get the venues back, and renew the work of the Centre.

The only organization excluded from the option of gaining 1% from the tax for 10 years. After all of this time hardly anybody relates The Fund to the option of donating 1% of the tax. As of today there are over 10 thousand organizations One can donate their 1% to.

Excluded from the school actions, which were hugely organized in over 2000 schools. However in 2003 the police has questioned about 100 school principals in Łódź alone under the accusation of alleged involvement in an illegal fundraiser. No one was charged, even though it's pretty obvious who is

responsible for this situation, suspicions turned out to be without merit, but it's not hard to imagine, the schools were effectively disaffected from the cooperations with the fund.

How many thousands of matches had and will have to go out. How many kids didn't get the support they needed that they could get from the Fabulous Fund. We could count that in millions, but can we convert that to money...

## **No for exclusion – Yes for acceptance. Yes for “The Match Girl”**

Buy the matches from the volunteers and the marketmakers. Get them over the internet – the only scented matches in the world.

Sign the Petition concerning the malls / Sign the request to the Mayor of Łódź to save The Little Match Girl from being rootless / [www.dzz.org.pl](http://www.dzz.org.pl)

Become a volunteer, a coworker, a partner, a donor, a sponsor, a contributor.

Share the calling for help for “The Match Girl” with your friends.

We encourage you to come and help, 104 Piotrkowska Street Łódź.

## **The match flame limitless love**

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