



# The Téka Foundation

## A Strategic Ecosystem for the Community



*Téka Alapítvány*







The **Téka Foundation** (Téka Alapítvány) was established on July 5, 1993, in Szamosújvár (Gherla).

The organization's mission focuses on **public education, culture, youth, and community development** within the Mezőség (Transylvanian Plain) diaspora region.

Téka is recognized as a **National Institution of Significance** by the Hungarian government. Its work has been honored with multiple prestigious awards, including the **Hungarian Heritage Award** in 2024 and the **PRIMA Díj** in 2019, alongside the **For Minority Award** in 2010.







Téka Institutional Buildings

The **Téka Foundation** currently operates a complex, multi-pillar system and has established an institutional network that fully covers the cultural, educational, and social needs of the region.

This network is not merely a collection of isolated buildings, but a **strategic ecosystem** serving the entire life cycle of the community. It addresses culture (Cultural Center), education (dormitory, school), rural outreach (the Culture Barn in Feketelak, the community house in Szépkenyerűszentmárton), skill development (Craft House, Equestrian School), and economic sustainability (Guest House).



# KEY INSTITUTIONS AND MILESTONES

- Téka Diaspora Cultural Center (Gherla, 1995)
- Téka Diaspora Student Residence (Gherla, 2001)
- Construction and Establishment of the Zsigmond Kemény High School (2016)
- Téka Culture Barn of Feketelak (Feketelak, 2005)
- Téka Folk Music School (Gherla, 2008)
- Community House (Szépkényerúszentmárton, 2010)
- TéKarám Horsriding School (Kérő, 2019)
- Téka Craft House (Gherla, 2020)
- NGO Resource Center of the Mezőség Region (Gherla, 2024)
- Téka Guest House (Gherla, 2024)

**The Foundation's extensive activities are carried out under three major framework programs: the Diaspora Education Program, the Cultural Diaspora Program, and the Tóvidék (Lake Region) Regional Development Program.**



# KEY INSTITUTIONS AND INITIATIVES

**Tēka Cultural Center:** This was established in the organization's first purchased headquarters in 1995. It hosts a wide array of cultural activities, including folk dance, folk music, and folk song education. The foundation began its cultural work by organizing dance houses in the early 1990s, recognizing folk dance as a strong tool for community building.



Kalāka Folkdance Group





Téka Diaspora Student Residence

**Téka Diaspora Student Residence** : Established in 2001, the boarding house network currently cares for around 115 to 130 students from 25 to 32 diaspora settlements. It serves students in grades 5–12, partnering with the Kallós Zoltán Foundation in Válaszút, which serves younger students. A new dormitory building was completed in 2023. Notably, about 37% of the enrolled students come from mixed marriages, demonstrating the program's success in counteracting assimilation.



Students of Téka Diaspora Student Residence



**Kemény Zsigmond Theoretical Lyceum:** The construction of this independent Hungarian educational center—Téka's most substantial infrastructure project—began in 2010. The school was inaugurated in 2016. The facility, capable of hosting 450 to 480 students, was financed primarily by the Hungarian government, which provided nearly 730 million HUF (830 million HUF for school construction between 2010–2016). The Téka Foundation owns the building.



Kemény Zsigmond Theoretical Lyceum



**Téka Craft House:** This center, established in 2020 and purchased in 2025, offers specialized craft activities, including accredited ceramics training and the use of 20 electric pottery wheels and three kilns



Téka Craft House



Tékarám Horseriding School



Despite its significant achievements and multi-million-euro real estate portfolio the Téka Foundation operates primarily as a civil organization **without consistent structural funding from the Romanian state or local government** for its operations, relying heavily on annual grants from the Hungarian government. This means that the continuity of the entire system, which is regarded as one of Transylvania's largest diaspora education programs, hinges on constant resource acquisition. To secure financial stability, the organization is implementing self-sustaining strategies, such as developing the **Téka Guesthouse** in the former dormitory building.



Teka Guesthouse



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## Téka Alapítvány 2026

### Donors

