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The Head of State acknowledged the Foundation for its work done in supporting disabled kids, young people and their families.

"The activities of Agrenska Foundation are very important; the sickness of a child or her disability changes the life of her family forever," said President Ilves. "Thanks to the work done by your Foundation and the local centre, disabled children have the opportunity to keep busy, whether they are weaving on handlooms or gardening, while their parents can be given information and practical knowledge on the development of a disabled child, take care of him and have an opportunity to get together to exchange experiences."

A member of the Executive Board of the Estonian Agrenska Foundation, Mr. Meelis Joost, introduced a supported employment project, funded by the Norwegian Foundation of Non-governmental Organisations, which involved practical employment exercises, conducted for the disabled youth of Estonia in co-operation with Norwegian partners, preventing school-acquired skills from disappearing and giving access to the labour market.

The Estonian Agrenska Foundation is a subsidiary of the Swedish Ågrenska Foundation, which aims to become a contemporary advisory and development centre for disabled children and children with rare diseases and their families in Estonia. The main support services, offered by the Estonian Agrenska Foundation, include family counselling, the teaching of social/coping skills and employment education to assist children with special needs to mature and child respite services or temporary child care for families of disabled children.

Mrs. Evelin Ilves is the patron of Estonian Agrenska Foundation.

The Estonian Agrenska Foundation is currently renovating the Tammistu manor house into a counselling and development centre for disabled children and young people, and are collecting donations for that purpose. See the website of the Estonian Agrenska Foundation at www.agrenska.ee.

Office of the President
Public Relations Department
Phone +372 631 6229