



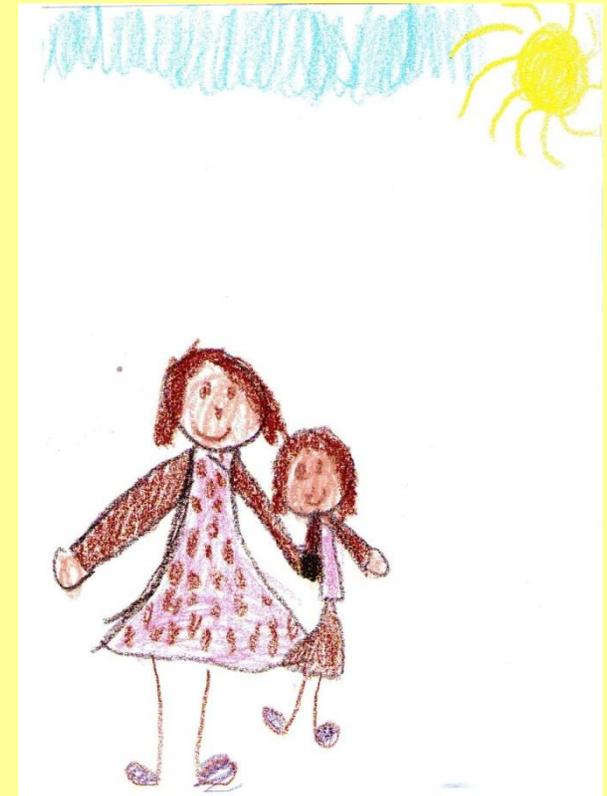
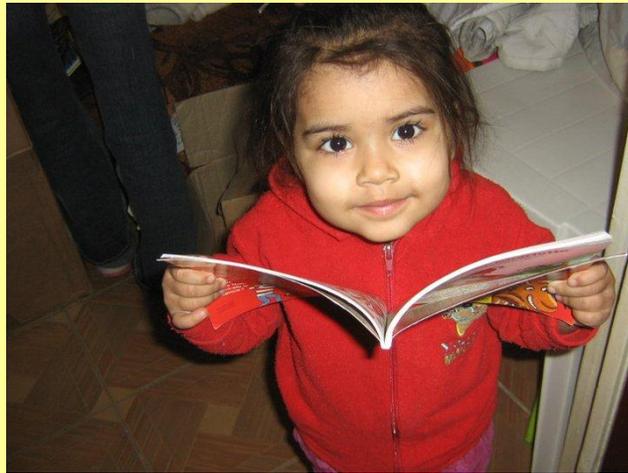
ASSOCIATION FOR A UNITED COMMUNITY
AND SOCIAL INTERVENTION

ANNUAL REPORT
2013



The ACSIS MISSION is to maintain the children in their original family by providing psycho-social services to the one-parent families – parents or future parents – being in life contexts that could determine the child’s abandonment or traffic. We do it by supporting the families:

- to develop their autonomy by exceeding the extreme poverty in the prenatal and postnatal period; to become aware of the impact of the child’s first years of life and to develop a secured affection and a healthy parenting life style;
- to develop their confidence in their own powers, to set goals and follow through them (going on with the education, attending a qualification course, finding a workplace).



WE BELIEVE THAT

We believe that each mother is unique and each child is unique. Out of this reason, we provide customized and complex support, adjusted to the extremely difficult life conditions the mothers in social risk face with – poverty, lack of the community support, even its blaming, lack of the support of the life partner in bringing up the child, lack of the security offered by a dwelling, emotional context of the birth, teenager mothers, single mothers. The mentioned cases are factors of risk making the families vulnerable and they encourage the cases of child’s separation to the own family. By our services, we intervene in these cases, supporting the families in identifying and accessing new recourses in building a future together. It is important for us to advocate and support the child growth in his family. Child education and healthy development are equally valued and sustained by us through our programmes.

TARGET GROUPS:

Who do we work with?

- Families in social, psychological and economic difficulty, risk of child's abandonment;
- Vulnerable youth and teenagers;
- Professional in the psycho-social field and teachers.



SERVICES PROVIDED:

- Social counseling
- Psychological counseling
- Vocational counseling and assistance in finding a job
- Information, education
- Emotional support
- Family and community integration/reintegration
- Social relationships and leisure activities
- Financial/material support

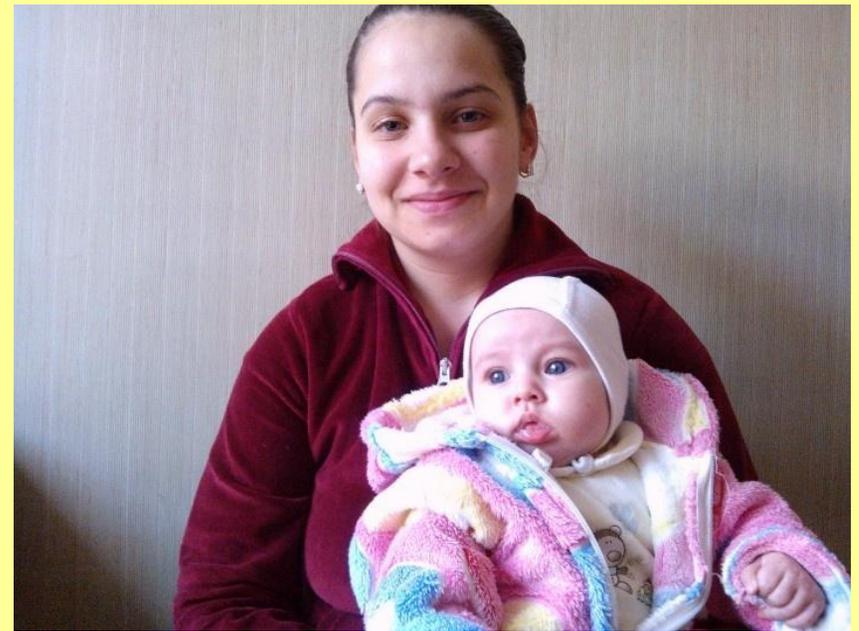
PSYCHO-SOCIAL ASSISTANCE AND PROFESSIONAL INTEGRATION

Integrated Services Project for preventing the child's separation from the one-parent disadvantaged families



One of 4 children in Romania is in the record of the social services, being in protection institutions, in care homes or in the street (ANPDC,2010). In the same time, Romania is in the first place in Europe from the point of view of the abandoned children. An increasing number of families face with the risk of being obliged to abandon their children, because of the financial and materials difficulties.

We support the children's maintenance next to their mothers, by a customized approach of the type of assistance provided: from material and financial support as a reply to the basic needs of the family which they most often mention first at the meetings, then social counseling, support in obtaining their legal rights, parental education, support in acquiring healthy behaviors and attitudes in the child's education, individual and group psychological advice, vocational advice and support in finding a workplace, support in completing the education, attendance to qualification courses.



Creation Workshop Project



The Creation Workshop answers a lot of social needs by providing working conditions adjusted to the situation of the mothers who educate alone their children, the formation of the responsibility to the work, acquiring both social and professional competences required to the integration on the labour market. The general objective of the project is the professional integration of the single-parent disadvantaged family, by the social enterprise, appropriate formation framework of the social and professional competences.



The mothers were supported by attending qualification courses in tailoring, they followed training in confectioning textile toys within the workshop, being in the same time supported by psycho-social services. They get within the workshop both tailoring abilities and social abilities specific to a workplace – observing a working programme, the responsibility with respect to the work, punctuality, norms required to be observed within an organized work framework. The incomes obtained by selling the workshop products were used to support other beneficiary mothers and to cover the costs related to the workshop.

- We participated with the workshop products at 10 fairs organized by companies in order to support the social economy: S.C. Mega Image SRL, Petrom, Cargill Agricultura SRL, ANCOM, Abbot Products SRL, by the United Way Foundation at Raiffeisen Bank, Xerox and Kinstellar Business Services, Day of Social Enterprises, Accueil Français et Francophone de Bucarest, the Social Economy Fair organized by Chance for Life Foundation, the 1st March Fair organized by the Hotel Company Intercontinental Romania S.A.
- 5 companies supported the activity of our workshop by purchasing the products : SC Abbot Products Romania SRL, ABD NET Management SRL, SC Life after work SRL, Sinergia Toys SRL, Stoica & Asociatii SCA..
- We organized 10 theatre representations for children from schools and kindergartens, using toys manufactured by mothers within the workshop.



Social Rights for the Mother and the Child Project

We developed information and counseling activities with respect to the rights related to the mother-child couple, within two Bucharest maternity hospitals, as a consequence of having identified in the field the mothers' need of guidance, immediately after the birth, with respect to both the rights and services provided by the state and the existing social services. 720 mothers with 912 children have benefited by these services.



RESULTS

196 children remained with their mothers as a consequence of our actions aimed to preventing the children's separation from the family

83 single mothers benefited by the services of psycho-social advice, vocational advice, material and financial support

20 single mothers obtained and maintained a workplace and they support themselves out of their own resources, following the sustained assistance of our team

8 single mothers received support in attending qualification courses or resuming the school courses

22 single mothers enjoyed of training within the Workshop and acquired the socio-professional abilities required to obtain and maintain a workplace

4 workplaces created and maintained within the social enterprise, for disadvantaged single mothers

569 children enjoyed theatre representations and could imagine their own stories with the toys made within the creation workshop

21 986 lei obtained from the sale of the toys manufactured by single disadvantaged



Testimonial:

"At the meetings with the other mothers within the ACSIS groups, I made new friends, I found out new ways of solving my problems, as well as a particular moral support. ACSIS was for us a great help in a difficult moment in my life and my 4-year old little girl. We'll never forget their help we'll try to remain close to the other mothers and to ACSIS." Petronela C., beneficiary





EDUCATION

Traffic in Persons Prevention Project

The human beings traffic is the third criminal activity as profitability at the world level and it represents the most serious type of breaching the human rights. According to the official statistics, the number of victims identified in the whole world increases every year with 800.000 and in Romania most of the victims are girls and women obliged to practice the prostitution.

During the school year 2012-2013, 65 teachers and more than 1200 pupils of technical colleges in Bucharest and Chisinau-Moldova were involved in activities of awareness and prevention of the traffic in persons. Likewise, we organized information workshops specially adjusted to the peculiarities of the single disadvantaged mothers, bringing a plus of security to the life of 40 one-parent families under the assistance programmes of the association.

The workshops had a high level of interactivity, the participants being encouraged to share their experiences and opinions. Many of them told situations they or their relatives passed through, the reality of the presence of this phenomenon in their life being a new confirmation of the necessity of our project. After the finalization of all the meetings with the pupils of each high school, we organized thematic competitions of essays and drawings meant to challenge the participants' imagination and creativity.

Testimonial

"In order to prevent trafficking you need information. The entire workshop and activities were steps towards our information in order to avoid all the worst that could possibly happen to us. I liked the activities very much and in the future if I will have the opportunity, I will get involved with great pleasure". Svetlana, student, 17 years old



Access to Education for disadvantaged children and youth Project

In 2013, we extended our service to the growth of the access to education of the children and teenagers coming from disadvantaged families.

With this respect, two elementary schools in Bucharest with a high number of school abandonment risks will benefit of educational activities aimed to the growth of the school attendance level and the improvement of the school performance of the children in difficulty.

The main directions of action aim to the children, parents and teachers: the children benefit of activities of developing the study abilities, informal entertainment and educative activities, their parents participate at individual and group sessions in order to become aware of the importance of the school and in order to learn new modalities of motivation and supporting their own children at the school, and the teachers and educators will be motivated to work together with our team, to the benefit of the children.

In the same time, the families included in the project are supported by material and financial point of view in order to exceed the deadlock they are in, support consisting in school materials, food, hygiene products.

Testimonial

"I have 5 children, the youngest is 1 year old, and the oldest is 9 year and I bring them up alone. I managed very hard, it is very important for me the help received from ACSIS: to know I've got clothes for them for the school, school materials and food for the children, you don't imagine what it means to me. Also, I was listened to, understood at the mothers' groups, I learnt a lot from the employees of the association who are very special persons." Claudia E., beneficiary



RESULTS

1200 students informed of the self-defense methods towards the phenomenon of traffic in persons during the school year 2013 -2014

65 professionals (teachers, school advisors) prepared to advised the youth under risk about the phenomenon of the traffic in persons and the consequences thereof

4 thematic competitions organized in the high schools partners in the project: the "Mecanica Fina" College, the Agricultural College "Viaceslav Harnaj", "Dimitrie Gusti" College Bucharest, Industrial College no. 1 of Chisinau Moldova

33 children, pupils of the elementary school 145 of Bucharest, enjoyed of educative activities related to the prevention of the school abandonment: support for making their homework, improvement of the abilities of writing and reading, increasing the capacity of concentration, developing the memory, material support for school activities

15 parents are more involved in the children's education and bringing up, following the participation at organized activities.



EVENTS

Generous people next to ACSIS children

Mega Image employees brought smiles on the faces of children supported by us, donating sweets, shoes, modern and beautiful clothes from H&M store. The children enjoyed enormously of the new clothes they wore at the school or kindergarten, not less that their mothers, also impressed of the surprises. Aura, beneficiary mother confesses us: *"I have two children 3 years old. It is very difficult to buy them the necessary things and I can very seldom buy to them new clothes. Thank you very much for your present!"*

"Our collaboration with ACSIS has already several years and we wish to go on offering them our help, as we believe in the cause they are dedicated to. I have done so far other different donations to the families protected by ACSIS, and this year we thought a greater joy for the children would be to receive new clothes, not born by anyone so far. These children don't know the "luxury" of having shirts not frayed, not blunted in the elbows or the collar, unstained or with all the buttons in their place. For us, the other ones, wearing a new blouse is something normal, we don't realize how lucky we are to have the opportunity of removing the label of a new coat. But there are people and, more sadly, there are children who have never had something personal, bought only for them, but only objects received "by charity", from other people. That's why, we proposed ourselves to bring this joy to their souls, so that they should not feel ashamed when they bear at school the clothes of older cousins, but to be proud they have their own T-shirt." Raluca Istrate, Internal Trainer Mega Image.



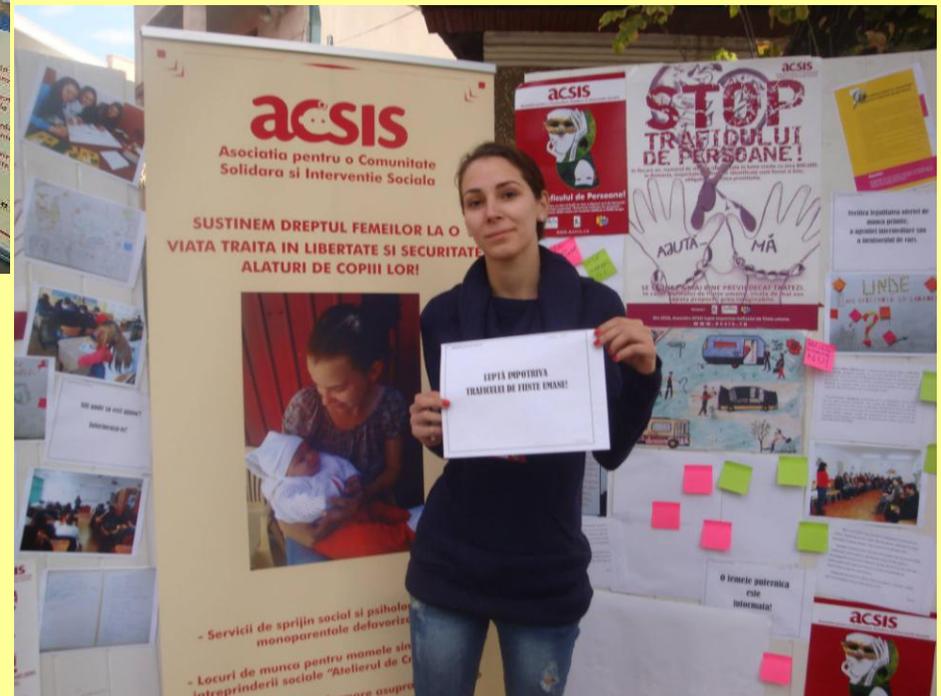
Celebrating the Child's Day!

We organized for the children, on 1st of June, competitions of drawing the preferred characters from the cartoons. The youngest participants made team with their mothers, also participating at the junior competition. The most beautiful drawings were prized with toys, and their authors were acclaimed and congratulated by all the assistance. The children played, sang, danced and enjoyed themselves on receiving the specially prepared presents. There were also colored balloons, pizza and cakes breaks, the party's star being the Anniversary Cake - Mickey Mouse.



For two days, we informed the participants, especially women, with respect to the traffic in human beings, the most used means of recruiting and controlling the victims and protection methods against this phenomenon.

The festival was under the sign of the Excellence, and our involvement was aimed to inform the participants about the fact that each woman can excel, which can be done only by correct information and the awareness of the importance of their independence.



The Art of Giving Fair

ACSIS organized, in partnership with the Byzantine Bookshop and the Academy of Economic Study Bucharest the Fair "The Art of Giving", event by which 44 000 lei were collected.

Outstanding personalities of the Romanian art joined our cause, donating painting and graphic works to the benefit of the children coming from disadvantaged one-parent families, supported by ACSIS.



We thank, on behalf of the beneficiary children, to the artists:

SILVIA RADU, Viorel Dumitru Bondar, Brândușa Bontea, Beba, Maria Lorena Călărașu, Teodora Chinschi, Maria Popescu Dragomir, Darie Dup, Reka Csapo Dup, Irina Florescu, Gheorghe Iacob, Ana Ruxandra Ilfoveanu, Lucia Maftai, Alexandru Ioan Mărginean, Olga Morărescu Mărginean, Viorel Mărginean, George Mircea, Claudiu Neagoe, Neculai Paduraru, Pia Paleologu, Ioana Andra Panduru, Alexandru Papuc, Horea Paștina, Florica Prevenda, Snejana Rivandori, Mihai Sârbulescu, Elena Scutaru, Marcel Scutaru, Doru Șetran, Militza Sion, Anamaria Smigelschi, Cătălin Udrea, Beti Vervega, Bogdan Vladuță.

VOLUNTEERING

ACSIS volunteers provided support for activities developed with beneficiaries, administrative activities and events organized by our organization.



In 2013 we were grateful to have the support of a number of 15 volunteers, who donated for our cause their time, abilities and energy.

Testimonial:

„Like most of you, I often came upon people who were more than willing to be judgmental or rude towards single mothers who didn't have the necessary means to support their children. Time and again, the same hard questions arise: "What made them stay in such abusive relationships?", "Why did they continue having kids if they knew their financial situation was so bad?", "Why couldn't they be more preoccupied about their education so that they could get a proper job?".

I was never one to cast the first stone, nor the second, nor the third but I must say that working alongside all the dedicated people at ACSIS and getting to know the mothers they help, I got even further away from passing even a shred of judgement. This was for me first and foremost an exercise in empathy, a lesson in humanity which many could do with, as well as a welcome reminder of the fact that life isn't as simple as jumping to conclusions is.

I am truly humbled by everyone I met at ACSIS and through ACSIS: at the tailoring workshop, at fairs and exhibitions, at the homes I visited together with the social worker. Each and every one of them was an incentive for me to speak on behalf of those less fortunate, whose voices struggle to be heard. For them and for those who do their best to help, I will strive to not become a product of my environment but instead to make the environment a product of myself." Clara Abdullah, volunteer

FINANCIAL REPORT

No.	EXPLANATION	AMOUNT (LEI)
I.	INCOMES	270 593
1.	Nonrefundable aids	185 500
2.	Economic activity	13 541
3.	Interests, exchange rate differences	2 560
4.	Donations, sponsorships	61 967
5.	2% din impozit pe venit	7 025
II.	EXPENSES	368 382
	PROJECTS EXPENSES	295 200
1.	Direct expenses associated to beneficiaries	146 500
2.	Projects direct expenses	102 000
3.	Projects indirect expenses	46 700
	INDIRECT EXPENSES	73 182
1.	Administrative	64 037
2.	Organizational development, promotion	8 000
3.	Exchange rate difference	1 145
III.	Deficit result *	(97 789)

* The deficit result is determined by the funds allocation in 2012 for part of the projects, the appropriate activities being undertaken in 2013.

AC SIS PARTNERS IN 2013

Many thanks to all our partners and sponsors who made possible our projects:

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

NESsT
Fundatia United Way Romania
ECPAT Belgia
Fundatia Samilia
Fondation d'Entreprise Société Générale pour la Solidarité
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Cofetăria Alice

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Andreea Dascălu
Oana Sandu Ștefănescu
Cristina Atanasiu
Liviu Grandl.

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Adresa: 215 Calea Mosilor, block 21, entrance B, apartment 37, district 2,
Zip code 020864, Bucharest, Romania
VAT Number : 16392636

Account: RO33 RZBR 0000 0600 0471 7200 – Raiffeisen Bank Branch Mosilor
Phone/Fax: +40 021 211 30 94

E-mail: acsis@acsis.ro
www.facebook.com/AsociatiaAcsis

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