



2024

Annual Report

**We are a charitable
organization
fighting for a world
with less poverty,
inspired by the
Catholic Christian
faith.**

We are a non-governmental, non-profit
organization that started its activity in
2004 in Oradea.

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Simply charity!

Vision & Mission



We support charitably and without discrimination

ACaritas Eparhial Oradea Association (ACEO) runs integrated social projects, programs and services that innovatively respond to the needs of families in need, the homeless and the elderly.

By promoting volunteerism, Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association upholds Christian values and educates people to charity. The organization has regional branches and sub-branches, is financially self-sustaining, contributes to local and regional development, is credible and visible in the community.

Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association applies an efficient management, having a team with skills in various fields, motivated and cohesive, which is continuously trained.

The purpose of the Association is exclusively humanitarian, consisting in providing effective support through donations of food, clothing, medicines, money, services, to various disadvantaged social categories, regardless of nationality, religion, race, sex or political beliefs, in order to increase the chances of beneficiaries to regain independence and control over their lives, to support the basic needs and improve the quality of life.

Caritas Eparhial Oradea Values



Charity



Compassion



Hope



Justice



Solidarity



Responsibility



Community



Integrity



Giving



Innovation



PSS Virgil Bercea

The Caritas Association of our Church is the living image of Christian love, which, like the outstretched arms of the Lord, embraces all the marginalized, combining justice with mercy, charity with evangelization, obedience with self-giving.

The Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, reminds us in his message for the World Day of the Poor in 2025 that „the worst form of poverty is not knowing God”. This call invites us to look beyond material needs and to become witnesses of hope and servants of salvation, so that through our actions Christ may be seen and loved.

I express my gratitude for all that you have accomplished in 2024. Let us keep alive in our hearts the words of the Psalmist: „You, O Lord, are my hope and my trust.” (Ps 70:6).

To those of you who, within Caritas Eparhial Oradea, give your life, time, knowledge and love for the good of your neighbour, I address to you the exhortation to always serve in a Christian spirit, as if every act of help was done directly for Christ, our Lord.

On this road of mercy, you will never go astray.

May God bless you abundantly and may Mary, the Blessed Mother, cover you with Her motherly protection

Word from the President

Priest Olimpiu Todorean

With this annual report we want to talk about something simple but essential: charity. Not demonstrative charity, not for show, not for image or praise but simply charity - that sincere gesture of helping without expecting something in return.

„**Simply charity**” - a phrase that encompasses the essence of kindness and unconditional giving. In a world where haste and selfishness seem to dominate, there are still people who choose to stop and give of their time, energy and resources to those in need.

There are people all around us who need support. **The elderly** need a kind word and someone to listen to their stories. **Children** from disadvantaged families need education, clothing, warmth and above all, trust. **The homeless**, the people we rush past, need dignity, shelter and a chance.

We can't change the world overnight but each and every one of us can contribute. **Volunteers** are already doing it - simple but kind-hearted people who choose to give time, effort and compassion. Alongside them, **benefactors** and **sponsors** support projects and initiatives from the shadows or in plain sight, that bring hope where there seems to be nothing. For some it is little, for others it can mean everything.

Charity needs no big words. It lives in the little things: a hand outstretched, a coat offered, a book given to a child, a moment of attention for someone who feels invisible.

So let's not forget that no matter how busy or preoccupied we are, we can always do some good. Maybe not for everyone, but certainly for someone. Because true charity is, in fact, simply humanity.

Adela Popa-Ghițulescu

Dear friends, collaborators and supporters of Caritas Eparhial Oradea,

It is with joy and gratitude that I invite you to browse through this annual activity report for the year 2024, which bears a simple but profound title: „**Simply Charity!**”. This title expresses, in the simplest words, the essence of our mission: to love through deeds, to be close to those in need with an open heart and hands ready to help, through concrete actions, without show but rich in love and compassion.

For us, 2024 was a year of active solidarity: we provided hot meals, showers for the homeless, support for children and refugee families, comfort for lonely elderly people and support for volunteers to get involved in the community. We haven't solved all the world's problems but we've been where there where we've been needed - with a gesture, a kind word, a helping hand. In a world racing for efficiency, we choose to stop and listen. In a society that sometimes forgets the small and vulnerable, we choose to be close to them. This is the charity we live day by day.

The activity of Caritas Eparhial Oradea is based on Christian values: the dignity of the person, subsidiarity, solidarity and service to neighbor. Christian charity is not a simple act of philanthropy but a living expression of the Gospel. This universal fraternity is the red thread of our work. It mobilizes, inspires and calls us to build a world in which no one is forgotten, rejected or abandoned. This active love is at the heart of every Caritas project.

Sincere and warm thanks to: the **Volunteers** - for their tireless dedication; the **Caritas team** - for their professionalism and spirit of service; the **public and private partners** - for their trust and constant collaboration; and the **Greek-Catholic Diocese of Oradea**, for the spiritual support that gives meaning and direction to our work.

Simply charity!



PSS Virgil BERCEA
BISHOP



Pr. Olimpiu TODOREAN
PRESIDENT



Adela POPA-GHIȚULESCU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Teodora BODA
Coordinator



Miruna MOZA
Coordinator



Corina ANDRAȘ
Coordinator



Andreea GHERCĂ
Coordinator

Social Assistance Department



Teodora BODA
Coordinator

Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association is an accredited provider of social services, which attests to the quality and compliance of its interventions with national standards. For over two decades, the organization actively contributes to community development, promoting social inclusion and respect for human dignity. Its work is based on the principles of charity, fairness and respect, offering unconditional support to vulnerable people, regardless of ethnicity, religion or social situation.

Social work, from the perspective of Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association, means more than knowing the legislation - it is a deep commitment to people. It is about listening, understanding and intervening where hope is lacking, in order to restore people's dignity and balance in life. Through legal solutions but also through empathy and dedication, the association's team contributes to rebuilding the destinies of people affected by poverty, illness, abandonment or trauma.

The social services offered by Caritas Eparhial Oradea are:

Social canteen

Located in Oradea, the social canteen provides a daily hot meal for homeless, elderly, single, sick or without income as well as post-institutionalized young people. In addition, the social showers – a unique service in the city - provide beneficiaries with hygiene products and clean clothes, helping to maintain the health and dignity of people in need.



Simply charity!

Residential Center „Frențiu House”

This center offers the elderly a safe, active and friendly environment with social, recreational and occupational activities. Emphasis is placed on the mental comfort and well-being of the residents, in a space that encourages interaction, relaxation and closeness to family.



„St. Martin” After School Center, Ioaniș

With the aim of preventing school drop-out, the center provides educational support and a hot meal to children from families in need. Educational and recreational activities aim at the harmonious development and social integration of children from hostile environments.



D.A.R. Block, Oradea

Housing for young people leaving the child protection system who want to build an independent future. The support offered includes offering 10 apartments for rent at an affordable price to families at the beginning of their lives as well as encouraging and supporting personal responsibility and socio-professional integration, through certain clauses agreed upon signing the lease.



CICRO - Information and Counseling Center for Refugees Oradea

An essential support for Ukrainian refugees: information, counseling, translation, accompaniment, social assistance services, material support and educational and psychosocial support activities. Bilingual staff (Ukrainian and Romanian) provides real support for their integration into Romanian society.



„Support for families in need” Project

The Association actively intervenes in support of families on the verge of poverty, offering material help but also emotional support and counseling. The objective is twofold: to prevent the deterioration of living conditions and to support the autonomy of families. In 2024, 46 people (26 adults and 20 children) benefited from this personalized support.

Through all this, Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association proves to be an essential actor in the social support network in Bihor County. Through a human and professional approach, the organization proves that solidarity, perseverance and compassion can transform lives. Whether it is a hot meal, temporary housing, access to education or emotional support, the organization offers more than services - it offers hope.

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Social Canteen Service



Teodora BODA
Asistent social principal

Povestea unui loc unde
demnitatea prinde gust
de acasă.

On the outskirts of Oradea's hustle and bustle, in a quiet corner, on **Theodor Aman Street 1C**, there is a simple but very special place: the social canteen of Caritas Eparhial Oradea.

Housed in the Social Center „Maria Rosa”, this canteen is not just a place where a hot meal is offered. It is, every day, a place of comfort, of hope, of coming back to oneself for people who often have nothing more than today.

The Canteen operates Monday through Friday, starting at 1:00 pm and directly addresses people who are homeless or in a state of profound vulnerability.

The service is accredited and licensed according to the legislation in force and is part of the national network of social canteens. But beyond the paperwork and procedures, behind every plate of food is a team that puts its heart into every gesture: from cooking to giving a good word.

Beneficiaries are selected on the basis of clear but humane **criteria** that reflect the stark realities they face: **homelessness, extremely low income, chronic illness, lack of family support or simply complete isolation**. Naturally, they are encouraged to get involved in their own recovery process: through collaboration, active participation and a desire for change.

This place is not just about food. It offers a **complex package of essential services: support in obtaining documents, access to showers and clothing, individual and group counseling, career guidance, thematic discussions about emotions, relationships or needs**. All this is coupled with a genuine concern for the individual and his or her dignity.

Social Canteen Service



Simply charity!



Social Canteen Service



Simply charity!

Social Showers activity

The aim of this activity is to facilitate access to showers for homeless people in order to prevent illness, reduce physical vulnerability and maintain personal hygiene. The activity is carried out in optimal conditions, ensuring a safe and hygienic environment for the beneficiaries.

People accessing this service receive sanitary and hygienic materials necessary for showering as well as a set of clean clothes, adapted to the season and individual needs.

Program:

- * Regular time of year: every Thursday between 10:00 - 12:00

- * Warm season: twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays between 10:00 - 12:00

This activity responds to a real need, constantly reported by the beneficiaries. During the year, 560 showers were given to 16 occasional and 20 regular showers. Their positive feedback motivates us to continue and to be there for them.



Social Canteen Service



In numbers, 2024 saw: 27 new requests; 53 contracts and addenda; 53 notifications regarding the social canteen service; 81 distinct beneficiaries (49 men and 32 women), 520 showers taken by 20 different people (15 men and 5 women); total number of meals served: 8,820.



Social canteen statistics

Religious denomination statistics:

13,33% - Orthodox;
10,00% - Reformed;
36,66% - Pentecostals;
3,33% - Greek Catholics;
26,66% - Baptists;
10,02% - Adventists.

Earned income statistics:

30,00% - disability pension;
16,66% - occasional income;
23,34% - sick/old-age pension;
30,00% - no income.

Housing statistics:

16,66% - own housing;
23,33% - state housing;
43,33% - homeless;
16,68% - other situations.

Statistics by gender:

40% - women;
60% - men.

Social Showers statistics

Housing statistics:

15% - state housing;
85 % - homeless.

Earned income statistics:

20,00% - sick/old-age pension;
25,00% - occasional income;
55,00% - no income.

Statistics by gender:

25,00% - women;
75,00% - men.

„Frențiu House” Residential Center Service



Miruna MOZA

Coordinator

The beneficiaries of „Frențiu House” are elderly people within the meaning of Law no. 292/2011 on the approval of Government Emergency Ordinance no. 34/2016 amending and supplementing Law no. 17/2000 on social assistance for the elderly.

The majority of assisted persons are resident in Bihor county, namely in Oradea or in the localities close to the county seat: Spinuș, Ciuhoi, Ciulești, Beiuș, Lugașu de Jos, Marghita, Ștei, Mădăras. These people, due to a variety of objective factors, come to the nearest or best developed city in the hope of finding solutions to the problems they encounter in regaining independence and control over their lives. Beneficiaries from the following counties also benefit from the service: Timiș, Dolj, Arad, Hunedoara, Brăila, Sălaj, Bucharest.

The Residential Centre „Casa Frențiu” provides services to each beneficiary, according to an individualized plan of assistance and care, based on the individual specific needs. The activities provided to the beneficiaries by the team of specialists in the center are:

Personal care:

- feeding (meals are served at set times, 3 times a day + 2 supplements; taking into account the dietary regime prescribed by the doctor as well as the dietary preferences of each beneficiary, within the limits of the possibilities. Meals are prepared in the center’s kitchen by qualified staff)
- personal and laundry hygiene, a service provided by caretakers for residents;
- sanitization of living areas is carried out by the cleaning agent;

Health care: (these services are provided by

„Frențiu House” Residential Center Service

nursing assistants)

- continuous supervision and health monitoring;
- integrated holistic reassessment of the patient;
- carrying out treatments prescribed by the doctor;
- health support and counseling;
- on a monthly basis, the beneficiaries are evaluated by an internist, neurologist, psychiatrist and psychologist from „Psiho Neuro Mag”;
- beneficiaries who needed specialized consultation are scheduled and transported to specialized doctors.

Functional recovery/rehabilitation:

- daily, residents of the center receive an hour of gymnastics under the guidance of a fitness instructor;
- on a weekly basis, the elderly take part in physiotherapy activities provided by a specialist: physiotherapy - laser, vibromassage, ultrasound, electro-therapy; physiotherapy and relaxation massage, lymphatic drainage;
- the beneficiaries receive weekly or as-needed psychological intervention provided by the center's clinical psychologist;
- daily, the residents participate in practical exercises of cognitive stimulation organized by the centre's psychologist, namely: word games to stimulate memory, educational games such as riddles and proverbs, group activities for inter- and self-awareness, music therapy, various activities aimed at cognitive stimulation and slowing down mental degradation.

Active living and social contacts:

- the center provides beneficiaries with a tablet so that they can communicate with their family remotely, and the social worker teaches them how to use them;
- temporary residence registration for new enrollees;
- walks in the nearby park with volunteers;
- family visits in the special spaces set aside for this purpose;
- birthdays are celebrated for residents who have added another rose to the bouquet of life; these moments are special for our beneficiaries, residents sing „Happy Birthday” and then serve the cake offered as a gift from the center;



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- socialization activities: team games (remys, guess the word, unstable tower, dominoes), watching movies;
- occupational therapy activities: bingo, color therapy, making paintings of trees decorated with lichen, building a jigsaw puzzle, completing crossword puzzles, making bracelets and greeting cards; carried out together with the social worker and with the help of volunteers and interns from the Faculty of Socio-Humanities, Specialization in Social Work;
- the beneficiaries receive counseling and emotional support on a weekly or as needed basis from the center's social worker.

The activities of the center are planned by the multidisciplinary team, according to the needs of the beneficiaries. After a detailed needs assessment, the objectives of the intervention and the activities to achieve the objectives are set. The intervention plan is updated throughout the year, in line with the achievement of the objectives and - if necessary - with the emergence of unforeseen needs. The progress of the interventions is discussed on a weekly basis at case discussion meetings, where the extent to which the proposed interventions are being implemented is assessed. At these meetings the results of the evaluations are discussed and presented.

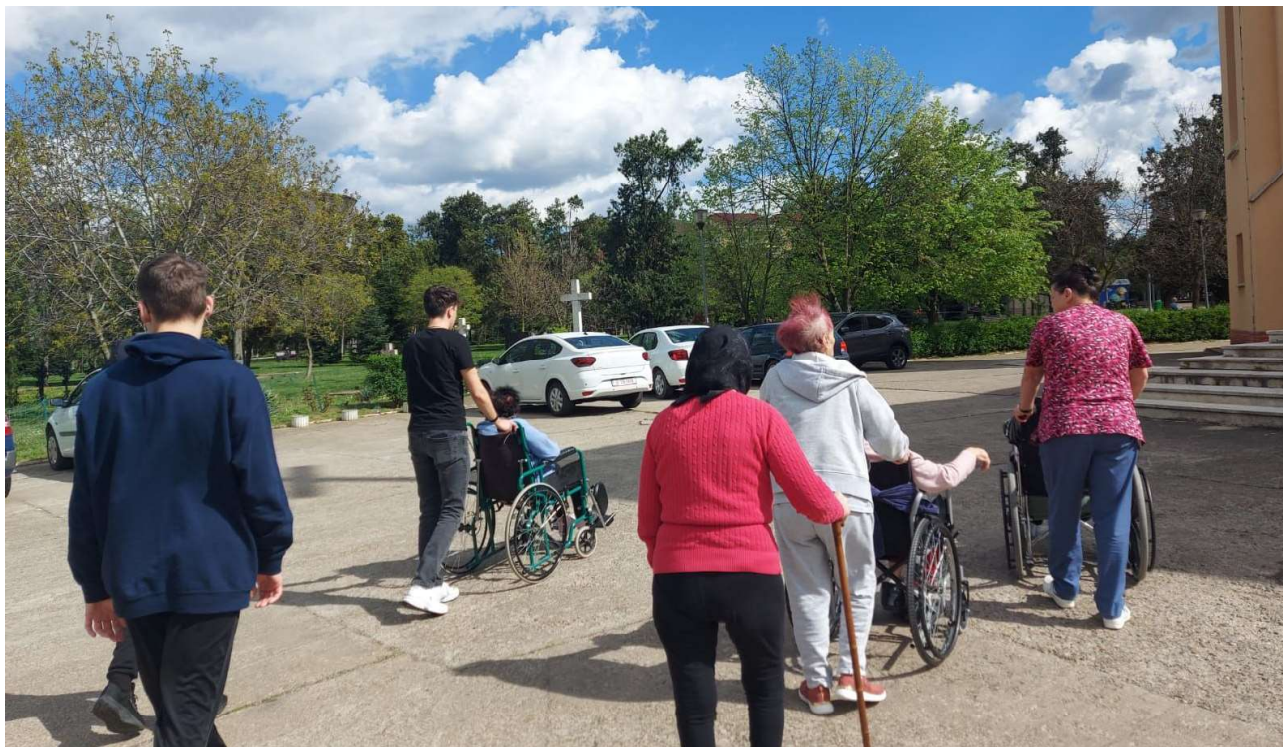
These services are provided through specific service packages, which are Standard, Silver and Gold depending on the needs identified after a complex assessment of the beneficiary by the multidisciplinary team consisting of a doctor, nurse, social worker and psychologist.

Human resources:

- persons with Individual Employment Contract are 19 of which: 1 unit manager, 1 social worker, 6 nursing assistants, 1 nurse, 2 cooks, 1 cleaner, 1 laundress, 1 nutrition consultant, 4 elderly caregivers, 1 medical registrar.
- persons with service contracts: 1 physiokinetic therapist, 1 psychiatrist, 1 psychologist, 1 neurologist, 1 internal medicine doctor, 1 cardiologist.



„Frențiu House” Residential Center Service



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„Frențiu House” Residential Center Service



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„St. Martin” After School Service



Corina ANDRAȘ

Coordinator

*„Dacă un copil trăiește într-un spirit de
acceptare și prietenie, el învață să gă-
sească iubirea pretutindeni.”*

Dorothy Law Nolte

Each child is like a new book and each page can be written with love and care. In a child's eyes we find love, joy and sincerity. Children are the future of the world, which is why every child must be part of a rigorous education process. This is regardless of race, ethnicity or status. Anyone who is educated can stand out and has a huge chance of doing well in the social hierarchy.

In this context, the social services offered within the After-School Centre „St. Martin” Ioanis are specialized social services aimed at preventing school and family dropout, ensuring harmonious conditions for upbringing, education and vocational training, as well as developing the individual's ability to overcome social need.

In order to achieve its purpose, the After-School Center „St. Martin” Ioanis provides children with a suitable environment to grow and develop harmoniously, helping them to integrate into society, giving them equal educational opportunities with other children.

Activities are organized according to the real needs of the children. Through the activities we run we offer children:

- social and medical care;
- a daily hot meal;
- a daily snack;
- help with school homework;
- tutoring;
- recreational activities;
- creative activities;
- informal and non-formal educational activities;
- approach restorative practices.

Thus, children's access and participation in the

„St. Martin” After School Service

diversity of socio-educational services is an important support for the family and the community in terms of ensuring child protection but above all it provides support and learning opportunities for the development of independent living skills necessary for academic and social success.

After the end of the daily school program, children come to the center where they are assisted in homework preparation. Children's participation in the center's programs is conditional on their attendance at school, thus the center's diversified program stimulates children to attend school. In order to be efficient in preparing lessons, the children's teachers are regularly contacted in order to support the children in the educational process.

Also, through home visits or meetings with parents, we make adults aware of the importance of the role of education in the family and society.

At the same time, children participate in informal and non-formal educational activities through which they have the opportunity to adopt certain attitudes, externalize certain behaviors, thus building their psychosocial profile.

Through creative activities, we discover talents and cultivate them, taking into account each child's preferences and particularities. To this end, we carry out manual work and practical skills activities in which children make various objects, greeting cards, drawings, paintings and collages.

We cultivate musical and artistic talent through various musical activities (singing and movement games, organized celebrations at different events). As for recreational activities, they offer children the opportunity to participate in leisure activities through play.

Children also participate in moral-religious activities where they are informed about the importance of faith. All these activities benefit the children, helping them to develop harmoniously, to become autonomous, fair, honest and responsible individuals, and last but not least, to respect

”*I like the Center very much. Here I am welcomed with a lot of love. My Lady Educator is always by my side, she helps me with my homework, we play together, we tell stories in a circle. My classmates are with me. We help each other, we play our favorite game 1234.*” (B.L.)

”*I like to do homework, play games, draw, spend time with the ladies and my colleagues. Everything here is wonderful, the food is very tasty and I look forward to coming to the Center every day.*” (B.N.)

”*I am very happy at the Center. Here I learn only good things, I do my homework, I play with my classmates, we play 1234, we go on trips and have parties. I like everything at the Center*” (C.N.)

”*I come to the Center because the ladies love me, they teach me new things, and my Lady Educator helps me with my homework and is always there when I need her. Here I like playing 1234, doing puzzles, drawing and writing. I am very happy here*” (B.N.)

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themselves and others. Thus, the support of the organization is directed first to the child - through the activities of the center, and then to the child's family - by helping them with material goods, food, moral and social support.

By helping the children, their parents are supported, they can either do casual work or get a job during this period or they can take care of the children's younger siblings more easily. At community level, we want to restore dignity to disadvantaged families, and we believe that the most effective means is education.

The beneficial effects of the center's work:

- School and family drop-out prevention;
- The programs offered at the center are diverse and attractive, which arouses children's interest, so in order to encourage children to go to school, we have made coming to the center conditional on daily school attendance. The children's school performance has increased, throughout this period we have had a lot of children with very good learning results. The children continue their secondary, vocational and post-secondary studies.
- By bringing children to the center, their parents are also helped because they can do casual work or take care of their younger siblings more easily;
- Parents become aware of the role of children's education in the family and in society;
- Through their daily participation in the center, children have learned: skills and norms of living in the family and society, age-specific skills of personal and social autonomy;
- Through artistic programs realized on different occasions, we managed to instill in the children more self-confidence and self-confidence in their abilities and at the same time to sensitize the local community in their attitude towards disadvantaged people.

In the year 2024 Caritas Eparhial Oradea supported social services, projects and activities aimed at improving the quality of life of beneficiaries and their families. 43 families benefiting from the center were supported through daily homework support for children, daily tutoring, educational-recreational and socialization activities, medical assistance, school supplies, clothing and footwear. Also this year we continued the implementation of the new intervention model - Restorative Practices.



„St. Martin” After School Service



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Statistics:

By religious denomination:



Statistics:

By declared income per household



„St. Martin” After School Service



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Oradea Counseling and Information Center for Refugees



Adela POPA-GHIȚULESCU

Coordinator

The year 2024 found us still working with the beneficiaries of the Information and Counseling Center for Refugees Oradea (CICRO). Since mid-June 2022, we have been working for the benefit of refugees, through social assistance services, psychological counseling, Romanian language courses and various educational programs for Ukrainian children for whom Oradea means „home” for now.

The beneficiaries of the center are Ukrainian people who have chosen to stay here, facing not only the language barrier but also a social context which, although friendly and welcoming, often does not offer the right solutions to the impasse that refugees have to overcome. We accompanied the beneficiaries who needed to go to the notary, we explained the procedural steps regarding the registration in the database of the County Agency for Employment, we mediated the dialogue between the refugees and the Immigration Service of Bihor County, the Social Assistance Department of Oradea, the General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection Bihor.

We also translated the telephone conversations between the family doctor and the beneficiaries who needed medical services. There are up-to-date records with all the documentation that is at the doctor's office concerning Ukrainian people, there are special registers, monthly reports that the doctor's office sends to the Bihor Health Insurance House. Through the Information and Counseling Center for Refugees Oradea, appointments are made with the family doctor and the dialogue between the beneficiaries and the staff of the family doctor's office is mediated.

Oradea Counseling and Information Center for Refugees

We ensured the supervision of young children throughout the Romanian language courses attended by parents who wanted to integrate socio-professionally in the current social context. These courses were organized by the Centre's translator, in order to facilitate the children's gradual insertion into Romanian public education but also for a better socio-professional insertion of adults.

The importance of psychological counseling, which we provided through the Ukrainian psychologist employed at the center also played an important role.

We provided support with hygiene products and products for small children when the situation required it. We provided school supplies, school uniforms, medicines and financial support (vouchers) to the most vulnerable Ukrainians.

Moreover, the staff who developed after-school programs for Ukrainian children also come from Ukraine, which brought an added quality for the benefit of teenagers and school-age children who were able to communicate easily with their teachers in their mother tongue. The effort on both sides was huge; on the one hand, the children who were enrolled in Romanian schools but who also kept up with the subject matter in their home country, and on the other hand, the staff, who constantly tried to respond to the needs that arose along the way in the process of assimilation of knowledge and development of each child.

In all the center's activity the Safeguarding Policy on children and vulnerable adults - through which Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association has undertaken to respect values such as: the best interest of the person, respect for the uniqueness of the person, non-discrimination, fairness, respect for human dignity and social solidarity – strictly observed.

The legal changes that came into force as of July 2024 required the mobilization of CICRO staff to mediate the relationship between beneficiaries and public institutions: Social Assistance Department, County Employment Agency, County School Inspectorate, County Agency for Payments



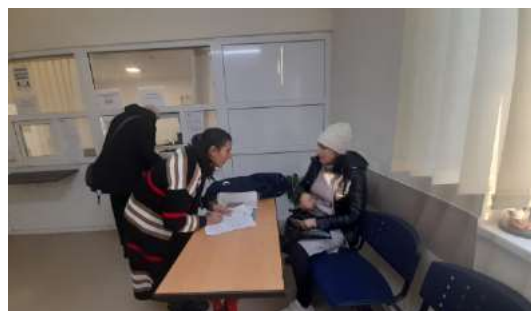
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and Social Inspection Bihor, for the realization and submission of the necessary files to obtain the lump sum offered by the Romanian Government. Emergency Ordinance no. 96 of June 28, 2024 provides the primary legislative framework for the social inclusion of foreign citizens or stateless persons from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine, ensuring them rights similar to those of Romanian citizens in the fields of health, education and work.

The Emergency Ordinance provides that foreign citizens or stateless persons from the area of the armed conflict in Ukraine who obtained the temporary protection permit before July 1, 2024 will be entitled, on the basis of renewal of the temporary residence permit and provided that the legal eligibility conditions are met, to a number of social benefits provided for in Romanian legislation, which include, among others, the state child allowance, minimum inclusion income, unemployment benefit, disability allowance, monthly child-raising allowance. In their turn, citizens who obtain for the first time the temporary protection permit as of July 1, 2024 will be entitled, once for a period of 3 consecutive months, to a monthly lump sum, the amount, conditions and mechanism for granting which will be established by Government decision. At the end of the 3 consecutive months, beneficiaries in this category will have access to the Romanian social assistance and social protection system, under certain conditions regulated by the legal text.

In order to obtain each social benefit, we have been by the side of the center's beneficiaries. From completing the documentation, filing the files, constantly mediating the dialog between the beneficiaries and the representatives of public institutions to the enrollment of children in Romanian educational establishments, working with teachers, principals, teachers. By the end of 2024 all beneficiaries received the amount of social benefits provided by law.

In the year 2024, as in the previous years 2022 and 2023, the Romanian language courses continued at the Refugee Information and Counseling

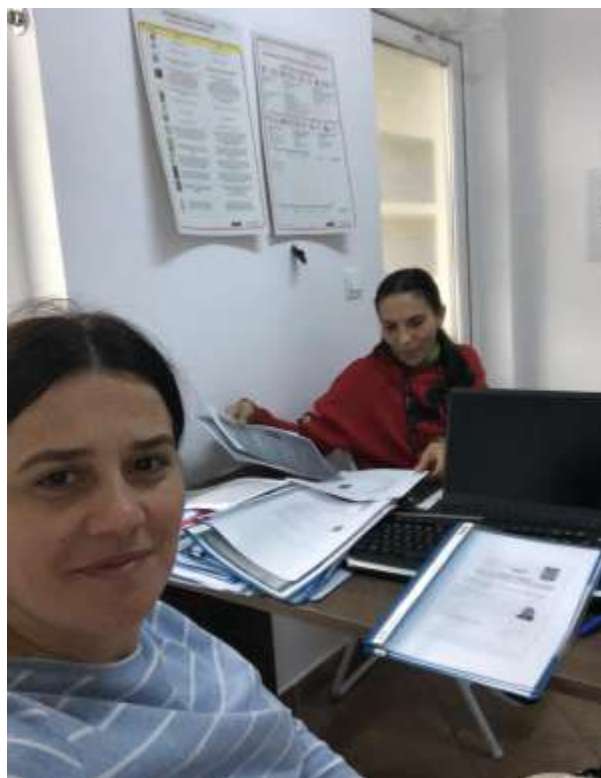


Oradea Counseling and Information Center for Refugees

Center Oradea (CICRO). Since the very beginning of the establishment of CICRO, the Romanian language courses have been prioritized over all the activities carried out in the center. Our beneficiaries gradually realized that without the Romanian language it is practically impossible for them to manage in Romania. A real challenge for the Ukrainian refugees in Oradea was enrolling their children in Romanian schools in the city. That's when they started to study Romanian more so they could help their children with their homework. Another challenge for refugees was employment. In order to fill a job vacancy, most employers require Ukrainian refugees to have a minimum knowledge of Romanian. Therefore, our beneficiaries started to realize the importance of Romanian language skills and, as a result, they enrolled in large numbers for Romanian language courses at CICRO.

Last year, the Information and Counseling Center for Refugees Oradea held two Romanian language courses for adults - beginner and intermediate level, and two courses for children - one for primary school children and the other for teenagers. 48 adults attended the Romanian language courses last year and 40 children. Classes were held twice a week for adults and three times a week for children. On average, there were 250 meetings with adults and children, amounting to 350 actual hours of Romanian language classes. At the end of the course, the adult participants were given a placement test. The test showed that all participants had A1 level Romanian.

In 2024, at the Information and Counseling Center for Refugees Oradea, (CICRO), part of Caritas Eparhial Oradea, activities for children aged 6-10 and 10-15 years took place. The children had the opportunity to learn online in a comfortable classroom with internet, headphones, laptops and lunch provided. There were English and Romanian language classes, teachers helped with homework, and in psychology classes, the children learned about managing emotions, breathing techniques, muscle relaxation techniques, talked about healthy relationships and much more. The children followed an adaptation and



Simply charity!

socialization course, where they became aware of their strengths, learned about the culture of a new country in a relaxed atmosphere and learned strategies to focus on their studies and improve their school results.

There was also a course on emotional intelligence, thanks to which we understand ourselves better, empathize, show care and warmth. Children created projects and presentations, participated in various creative master classes where they created a real miracle with their own hands. During the career guidance courses, children got acquainted with the world of professions in order to discover and realize their own characteristics and needs, considering what idea could become a worthwhile goal to achieve, to acquire a profession, to improve skills. Followed mask therapy - this is an effective development of cognitive processes, such as memory, thinking, attention, imagination, self-perception and self-awareness.

The children followed a course of Hibuki therapy to increase their resilience, reveal their creative abilities and potential, and adjust their emotional and volitional spheres. Each child was given their own Hibuki toy, a stuffed puppy. Starting July 1, 2024, children attended the summer camp „Adventures in Romania” group I, 6-10 years old, and group II, 10-15 years old.

They studied Romanian history, group games, Romanian language classes, art therapy classes, bead embroidery. The „K pop Cover Dance” group was set up with dance classes. Children went on trips to the Fortress, the Zoo, to Oradea Museum. The small beneficiaries of the center took walks around the city, in the park and had picnics with songs, competitions and games. In psychology classes we studied how our brain works, our reflexes, we got to know ourselves and we followed trainings such as „My Fortress”, „I am a teenager”, „My coat of arms” and others.

We celebrated World Book Day by remembering the importance and necessity of reading. We talked about safe behavior on the internet. They presented stories about how to use social ne-



Oradea Counseling and Information Center for Refugees

works in a trust-based environment and shared stories from their own experiences. They learned how to protect their personal data, set up their privacy on the most popular platforms. The most reliable protection for our children is knowledge and understanding. They also took a course on bullying prevention. Every Friday, we had movie club for kids, where we watched and discussed movies (cartoons), analyzed plots, „translated” them into reality and introspected. We talked about personality type, needs, temperament, actions and relationships of the characters.

At the Center we also had the Club „We are teenagers” for communication and spending time together. The „Free Mom” club, where in a trusting atmosphere everyone shared their story and found their own resource. The 50+ Club was about taking care of yourself. The „Quality Time for Kids with Parents” Club, where they discussed the importance of spending time together, analyzed problems and found techniques to solve them.

We celebrated together: *Unity Day, The traditional shirt Day, Mother’s Day, Valentine’s Day, Spring Day, Easter, birthdays, Christmas, we had a New Year’s workshop and organized sleepovers.* Carols were sung, the children got presents and always in a good mood.

At the center, we are a friendly team, where emotional support is always present, a comfortable and inspiring atmosphere, where people always understand, listen and help. Everyone feels at home. I have seen many smiles, and this is the biggest inspiration for future work.

For 2025, we plan to continue, in the first part of the year, the activities started in 2024, both social and educational. After the end of this school year, our focus will be on supporting the socio-professional integration of those who will choose to stay in Romania and on supporting the safe return to their country for those who will wish to do so.



Simply charity!



Eugen Ivrut



Simply charity!

Volunteering Department



Andreea GHERCĂ

Coordinator

For the Volunteering Department of Caritas Eparhial Oradea Association the year 2024 represented a new chapter in building a more united community, more supportive and sensitive to the needs of the vulnerable. Our work was guided, as always, by the Christian values of love for one's neighbour, respect for human dignity and active involvement in community life.

At the heart of our projects and actions have been our volunteers - generous, courageous and dedicated people who have chosen to give of their time, energy and resources to bring comfort, hope and support to those in need. Regardless of age, profession or experience, each volunteer contributed something unique and valuable. Together, we have formed a supportive team, united by a desire to make a difference in the lives of those we serve.

Throughout this year, our volunteers have been present in activities with children, the elderly and the homeless, as well as in food collection campaigns. In each of these contexts they demonstrated empathy, perseverance and a deep understanding of the mission of Caritas Eparhial. We have also invested in their ongoing formation, organizing training sessions, reflection meetings and team-building activities to give them the necessary support and increase the impact of their involvement.

This report summarizes the main directions of the Volunteering Department's work in 2024, highlighting both quantitative and qualitative results. More than a simple overview of activities, it is a testament to the power of solidarity and the belief that good, even when it seems small, has the power to transform lives.

Volunteering Department



75
volunteers volunteered

1.318
hours in service

Thanks to all our volunteers for their courage, patience and dedication. We also thank our partners, colleagues and supporters, without whom the work of our volunteers would not have the same impact.

We look to the future with hope, inspired by the example of those who choose to give, to accompany and build a better community every day.



Simply charity!



Volunteering Department



Projects and Programs Department



| Adela POPA-GHIȚULESCU

Coordinator

In the year 2024, the Project Department of Caritas Eparhial Oradea has successfully coordinated and implemented a number of initiatives designed to meet the needs of the local community. By attracting non-reimbursable funds and developing strategic partnerships, the projects team supported the implementation of social, educational and assistance programs for vulnerable people.

The overall objective was to support social cohesion, reduce discrimination, develop integrated social services and strengthen long-term impact in vulnerable communities

The department's team mobilized both **international** and **local** funding for broad impact in disadvantaged communities.

We have pioneered **restorative practices** as a model for sustainable community development in recent years.

We have mobilized and valorized volunteering in Oradea through training, involvement and public recognition.

Our department has orchestrated visible community initiatives that have engaged active volunteers in directly supporting vulnerable people and changed lives. We have consistently promoted community solidarity and participation, connecting direct beneficiaries with organizational resources and assets.

Main beneficiaries: children, youth, vulnerable families, homeless, elderly and Ukrainian refugees from Ukraine in Oradea.

The department's work has focused on sustainability, social impact and innovation, contributing significantly to the organization's mission: to **simply** do good.

Projects and Programs Department



Finance Department

Revenue: 914.480 Euro.

I. From the country: 726.732 / 72,29 %

- I.1. Donations, sponsorizări, contribuții: **398.539,80 Euro;**
- I.2. Subsidies: **100.816.33 Euro.**
 - I.2.1. State budget: **95.510,20 Euro;**
 - I.2.2. Local budget: **5.306,12 Euro.**
- I.3. Grants: **227.375,92 Euro.**
 - I.3.1. Bihor County Council: **4.266,31 Euro;**
 - I.3.2. Oradea Local Council: **3.408,16 Euro;**
 - I.3.3. Confederația Caritas România: **97.273,67 Euro.**
 - I.3.4. Other grants: **122.428,78 Euro.**

II. Non-reimbursable financial support from abroad: 174.279,80 Euro / 19,02%

III. Financial activity (interest, exchange rate differences): 54,29 Euro / 0,01 %

IV. Extraordinary activity (utility re-billing, others): 15.454,69 Euro / 1,68 %

Expenditure: 824.418,16 Euro

I. Social work expenses incurred: 711.222,24 Euro / 86,48 %

(„Frențiu House” Social Service, „Social Canteen” Social Service and „St. Martin” After School Centre in Ioaniș);

- I. 1. **Raw materials, consumables, others: 202.188,16 Euro;**
- I. 2. **Administrative, maintenance, utilities: 120.435,71 Euro;**
- I. 3. **Personnel and social security: 376.998,57 Euro;**
- I. 4. **Donations granted: 11.998 Euro.**

II. Expenses incurred to support ACEO’s activity: 46.641,22 Euro / 7,16 %

(administrative, utilities; fees and dues; operational, including staff costs; bank charges; training and professional training)

III. Extraordinary expenses (amortisation): 52.309,80 Euro / 6,36 %

Partners, collaborators, funders, sponsors

Partners

- INSPECTORATUL ȘCOLAR JUDEȚEAN BIHOR
- COLEGIUL ECONOMIC „PARTENIE COSMA”
- COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL “EMANUIL GOJDU”
- COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL „IOSIF VULCAN”
- COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL “MIHAI EMINESCU”
- COLEGIUL TEHNIC “CONSTANTIN BRÂNCUȘI”
- LICEUL TEORETIC “LUCIAN BLAGA”
- COLEGIUL NAȚIONAL “ONISIFOR GHIBU”
- LICEUL GRECO-CATOLIC “IULIU MANIU”
- ȘCOALA GIMNAZIALĂ NR.1 FINIȘ
- ASOCIAȚIA EDUBIZ
- LIVELLA SUPERMARKET
- BLUESKY TRADING S.R.L.
- MAGAZIN ANCOS
- MAGAZIN FUN PARTY
- MAGAZIN STOCKHOUSE
- MAGAZIN TOTEM COM
- SC AFORM SRL
- DELIA FARM IMPEX SRL
- METRO CASH & CARRY
- LEONARDO LOTUS
- CASA VERDI

Collaborators

- FACULTATEA DE ȘTIINȚE SOCIO-UMANE, DEPARTAMENTUL DE SOCIOLOGIE ȘI ASISTENȚĂ SOCIALĂ AL UNIVERSITĂȚII ORADEA
- SELGROS CASH&CARRY SRL
- ERA SHOPPING PARK
- DIRECȚIA DE ASISTENȚĂ SOCIALĂ ORADEA

Funders, sponsors

Abroad

- RENOVABIS, GERMANIA
- ASOCIAZIONE CHIESE DELL’EST ONLUS, ITALIA
- CONFERINȚA EPISCOPIILOR AMERICANI

From Romania

- FUNDAȚIA ALTEX
- SC RIVOLTO CONS SRL
- SC DUNCA CONSTRUCT SRL
- BIROU INDIVIDUAL NOTARIAL DRĂGOIU ILIE
- SC IUBI EXIM SRL
- SC AL.SE.RO SRL
- SC PANIFICAȚIE TOMIS SRL
- SC ZUCHETTI ROMANIA SRL
- SC MARVICON SRL
- SC SCALA DANIA SRL
- SC BUNEXIM SRL
- SC GROS METAL SRL
- SC REIFEN TRADE SRL
- SC DELIA FARM IMPEX SRL
- SC MALINCO PRODEX SRL
- SC FOUR DECOR INTERNATIONAL SRL
- SC MANNA COM PLUS SRL
- SC TIBEA IMOB SRL
- SC GRAIN EXPRESS SRL
- SDK MANAGEMENT SRL
- SC CARBENTA COM SRL
- GREEK CATHOLIC PARISHES IN THE DIOCESE OF ORADEA

Simply charity!

Asociația Caritas Eparhial Oradea

Str.: Mihai Pavel 3; 410210, Oradea, Jud Bihor, România

Tel. 004.0359.418.212

www.caritaseparhial.ro

e-mail: caritaseparhial@yahoo.it

„Frențiu House” Residential Center Service

Str. Spartacus 35B, Oradea, România

Tel.: 004.0359.418.201 sau 004.0762 257 733

www.caritaseparhial.ro

e-mail: casafrentiu@gmail.com

Social Canteen Service „Maria Rosa”

Str. Theodor Aman 1C, Oradea, România

Tel.: 004.0770.302.658

www.caritaseparhial.ro

e-mail: caritaseparhial@yahoo.it

„St. Martin” After School Service

Loc. Ioaniș, nr.56; România

www.caritaseparhial.ro

Tel.: 004.0722.450.013

e-mail: caritaseparhial@yahoo.it

D.A.R. Block, Oradea

Str. Dr. Ioan Cantacuzino, Oradea, nr. 54, România

www.caritaseparhial.ro

Tel.: 004.0722.450.013

e-mail: caritaseparhial@yahoo.it

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www.caritaseparhial.ro**