

Veritas View

Sighisoara, Romania

Spring 2023

Two Art Projects Offered by Acclaimed Artist Teli Iacşa

Teli Iacşa is a nationally and internationally recognized artist. Veritas was honored to have her provide leadership for two art projects:

The Social Unicorn

Inspired by people with disabilities, the beneficiaries of the Veritas Day Center. Teli wanted to introduce them to a magical world, and she succeeded, as their joy, enthusiasm and imagination were used to create a unicorn. The project was presented in Bucharest as part of a fine arts exhibition.



Teli Iacşa

The **Tree of Friendship and Love** project, realized with Teli Iacşa's help, was created and painted by Veritas children and teenagers, not only creating a work of art but bringing the group closer together.



Your Health Matters Project

The "Your Health Matters" project provides health care and health education services to vulnerable groups in Sighisoara and surrounding areas. The objective is to provide services and reduce inequalities for at least 1900 people of which at least 15% are Roma.

It aims to set up a "Together" Health Care Centre in Hetiur, which will provide internal medicine, pediatrics, medical rehabilitation and physiotherapy for children and adults, as well as a medical analysis laboratory. A medical caravan will also be set up to travel twice a month to remote rural areas to provide a full package of medical tests for detailed medical assessment.

This project will run for a period of 15 months, and the Veritas Foundation is pleased and honored to be a partner in this project, together with the Ministry of Health, the Municipality of Trondheim - Norway, the Social Welfare Department of Sighisoara and the Municipality of Sighisoara (the project promoter).

Veritas' role in this project is to run the children's program "School of Health." This educational program will last five days with four hours of informal health education activities per day. Six groups of children and young people under 18 years of age (120 total) will benefit from health education activities adapted to their level of development and understanding. The programs will be held at the Veritas Foundation headquarters, and all Veritas Foundation assistants and their families will benefit from free medical services.

The Generations Project

Veritas Foundation was chosen for the Generations Project by the Royal Margaret of Romania Foundation and supported by Hochland Romania. The inauguration of this project took place in October 2022 and will be completed in July 2023. The project has been developed in several stages, with eight senior mentors sharing their knowledge with the children and young people of the Veritas Day Center. The children brought their enthusiasm, energy and joy and the senior volunteers shared skills and experience they have gained over the years.

Creative workshop

Volunteer Eftimie Aurelia Maria led this workshop for six months, from November until April. The goal of this workshop was to develop and stimulate handcrafting skills, creativity, imagination and aesthetic sense. This workshop has been a great success, with the children participating with enthusiasm and great pleasure. At the beginning of the workshop the children were unskilled, but during the workshop their progress became evident, as they managed to make stars, trinkets, Christmas trees, flowers, angels, and bunnies.



Personal development workshop

Volunteer Monica Stefanescu started her workshop on November 14 and continued until June 2023. The aim of this workshop is self-awareness and recognition of feelings, increasing self-esteem, developing empathy. The workshop is held once a month in groups of children and teenagers, and the topics are related to violence, types of abuse, love and gratitude, and “I matter”. Both children and teenagers were delighted with the meetings in which interpersonal relationships were processed.

Feedback: “For me to matter means to live in a world of appreciation, of kindness, a world where we can help each other.”

Artistic theater workshop

Volunteer Nicolae Lazar led a six-month workshop starting November 2022 and ending May 2023. The aim of this workshop was to develop artistic and communication skills through reading the text, memorization, expressiveness, and control of emotions. The biggest challenge faced by the volunteers was related to the children's ability to memorize the text and to put themselves into the role. In May 2023 a small group of young people participated in the national theater competition in Sighisoara.

Feedback: “Playing theater means seeing yourself with different eyes, traveling in another world. When I play theater, I can be who I want to be. This workshop helped me to control my emotions, to push myself, to fight with my limits.”

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The “Generations Project” - *Continued*

Homework preparation workshop

Volunteer Cornelia Rucoi started on November 7 and continued until June 2023, on a weekly basis. The aim of this workshop was to improve and consolidate the knowledge acquired at school by the children who are beneficiaries of the Day Center, to improve their school situation and to know their school success. The workshop has a relatively small number of children compared to the other workshops, as it requires individual work with them. After four months, it was observed that there was an improvement in attention, in the relationship with other children, and better results in writing, reading and arithmetic.

Feedback: “Cornelia is intelligent, loving and patient with us. She helps us to learn better because she loves us.”

Music workshop

Volunteer Teodor Halmen led a workshop in November and December. The goal was to improve musical knowledge. The children practiced posture and breathing, vocal techniques, and musical listening skills. The children learned what a canon is and sang it during the winter holidays.

Sports workshop

Volunteer Mihaela Lefticariu directed a three-month workshop from January to March. The objective of this workshop was to train the children to practice physical exercises independently, and to form and improve their motor skills. Another goal of the workshop was to combat obesity in the children participating.

Heath education workshop

Volunteer Gherca Tatiana directed this workshop from February through May. The goal was to learn as much as possible about the human body and how it works. The children learned about the importance of body hygiene for good functioning of the body and how to prevent diseases.

Ecology and gardening workshop

From March to June volunteer Ioan Ludusan worked with children and teens to learn as much as possible about nature and the importance of nature in human life. The goal was to keep the environment clean, and plant trees and flowers, helping children to maintain a healthy environment.

Project Confer

Veritas Foundation has been selected by the Royal Margareta Foundation of Romania, in partnership with Nedland Kultur, to be part of a project called “Confer.” Financial support comes from the Active Citizens Fund Romania.

The “Confer” project started in April 2021 and ends in January 2024. The aim of this project is to contribute to the development and sustainability of 10 active NGOs serving in educational and social fields in response to the Margareta Foundation's mission of discovering and inspiring leaders to create a more sustainable and self-reliant community.

So far, Veritas has benefited from numerous trainings and guidance for better development from a team of experts with extensive experience in the NGO sector in Romania. We have been provided with practical information and support resources to improve the services in the social sector in which we operate. For three weeks we have been offered individual coaching on all areas of foundation development--fundraising plan, website, social media presence, etc.



Ionela in the Kitchen

Staff updates

Ionela Micu joined our Veritas team as an assistant cook in November 2022. She was born and raised in Sighisoara. Her passion for cooking and her love for other people contributed to her choice to join the Veritas team. In her spare time, Ionela enjoys gardening, baking cakes and listening to music. She is married and has a special daughter, Roxana, our social worker.

On May 15, 2023, Petruta Gabor's son Elias Stefan was born. Petruta's responsibilities at Veritas have been picked up by Jeni Das and Andreea Domahidi, who have a special relationship with children and teenagers.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our newest campus project is "Casa Impreuna". This space hosts two elderly clubs and the special needs club, serving a total of 75 people. It's a place where the elderly find solace from their loneliness while the disabled share their day-to-day experiences, where laughter is heard in conversation, board games are played and Bible studies take place. The building is full of activity Monday through Thursday from 10 am to 3 p.m.



As you can see the plaster is starting to fall off, and we would like to renovate and sanitize this space (plastering, painting, laying new floors, repairing the roof, and replacing doors and windows). The costs will be approximately 140,840 Ron (28,000 USD). Your support will help to greatly improve the atmosphere inside and the appearance outside.

We are blessed by the number of grants we have been able to access, allowing us to work on staff training as well as on a variety of projects that directly impact our clients and our community. However, we still need your support! While grants allow us to expand what we can give to our clients, they don't supply the funds needed to pay staff and cover ongoing expenses. We are grateful for your continued donations and rely on your prayer support as we continue to serve God and others in Romania.

HOW TO GIVE

All donations are tax deductible. Online donations can be made at <https://give.nazarene.org/donate/f/134477>.

You can mail your donations to NCM (Nazarene Compassionate Ministries). Put "Veritas Romania" in the memo line and mail to: Nazarene Compassionate Ministries PO Box 843116 Kansas City, MO 64184

In the UK, donations can be sent to the Titus Trust, c/o Dr. Paul Tarrant, 129 Mains Drive, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7JJ or directly to the Titus Trust (IBAN GB85 BOFS80-13- 53 06 0009 36) Bank of Scotland, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Erskine, Renfrewshire, PA8 7AA.



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