

Veritas View

Sighisoara, Romania

Winter 2025

NEW YEAR BRINGS BIG CHANGES TO THE HOUSE ON THE ROCK

On December 20, the doors of the coffee shop at the House on the Rock were closed for the last time, signaling that a major transition was coming for the entire building.

Since its opening in 2001, the House on the Rock has served as the Education Center for Veritas and the Romanian Studies Program. Veritas founder Dorothy Tarrant recognized that the 17th century building's location on the historic square of the Sighisoara citadel would give Veritas unique opportunities for ministry. The International Café opened in 2002 with the purpose of generating income to support Veritas programs.

Following the pandemic, however, the café has struggled to make a profit. After much discussion over the past couple years and carefully considering various options, the Veritas Board of Directors made the difficult decision at its November 2024 meeting to close the café and rent out the entire building. The rental income will support the Veritas social programs with greater consistency than the profits from the café were ever able to do.

We are grateful to Adela Hermann, who has managed the renamed House on the Rock Café since 2022. Adela joined the Veritas team in 2011 to work with Romanian Studies Program students. She later became the Coordinator of Educational Services and led youth educational programs such as English camp, It Takes Courage, and Ceai & Chat. As café manager, Adela provided job opportunities for several young people who she trained to work in the café. Her interaction with clients and staff alike demonstrated her Christian faith and values. We wish Adela God's blessing as she begins life's next chapter.

The board decided to rent the entire House on the Rock building to Mark and Raluca Tudose, who will creatively use the space for promoting traditional Romanian handcrafts. Mark ("the Spoonman") opened his first gift shop in the basement of House on the Rock in 2012 and is looking forward to carrying on the values that have guided the use of the House on the Rock building over the years.



**The House on
the Rock**



Adela



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

STAFF TRAINING

Andrea Domahidi, social worker with the children and teens, represented the Veritas Foundation at the Holistic Child Development Conference, organized by Nazarene Compassionate Ministries of Sri Lanka. This conference took place in Sri Lanka and included 24 individuals from 13 different countries. Andrea broadened her understanding of holistic child development within a global framework. Overall, it was a transformative experience that deepened her commitment to the mission of the Veritas Foundation and the well-being of children worldwide.



Andrea Domahidi



Beyond Online Summer Camp



Szelters Baths Camp

TWO SUMMER CAMPS

In July, the Veritas Foundation organized the creative **"Beyond Online" summer camp**, providing a chance for children to explore their creativity in a technology-free setting, emphasizing the importance of face-to-face interaction and artistic expression. Veritas plans to continue hosting the "Beyond Online" camp in the future, potentially expanding the number of sessions and activities. This camp was funded in part by contributions in memory of Jan Hockensmith. See this newsletter article - [Newsletter-dec-2023.pdf](#)

Also in July, we spent three unforgettable days at the **Szelters Baths Camp** with twenty children from the Veritas Day Center. The experience was filled with adventure, creativity, and fun. Members of the Disabilities Club also joined us, bringing a unique energy and demonstrating that true strength comes from diversity, cooperation, and mutual support.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF 2024

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TWO PROJECTS

The "Generations" Project supported by the Princess Margareta of Romania Foundation and Hochland Romania, was launched in October 2023 and was supposed to end in July 2024. Due to the success of the program, the project is being extended until July of 2025. The initiative has involved nine senior mentors who have shared their expertise with children and teens at Veritas. More information about this project can be found here [Newsletter-spring-2023.pdf](#)



The Generations Project



Your Health Matters



"Your Health Matters" started in October 2022 and ended in April 2024. Veritas partnered with the Ministry of Health, the Town Hall of Trondheim (Norway), the Town Hall of Sighisoara, and the Sighisoara Social Welfare Department to seek to raise health awareness among both children and adults. A "School for Health" was conducted during the summer in six groups, each with 20 children and young people under eighteen. Feedback from participants was positive, with many expressing excitement for future camps. In the second phase of the project, Veritas visited and registered individuals from disadvantaged communities, organized 12 health workshops, and took part in a First Aid course provided by the Red Cross. A total of 1,186 people were identified, assessed, and registered.

VISTOR AND STAFF UPDATE

Nothing is more exciting for staff and beneficiaries than having visitors come to Sighisoara. This past year we welcomed board members Dorothy Tarrant and Sheri Hartzler; Lois Rosenberry and her family along with Karl and Susan Burns; Prof. Elizabeth Patterson Roe and husband Charles along with a group of students from Malone University; PaXan, a group of volunteers from Germany; Morag Moffat and Sue Bright from Scotland and England, and Matthias and Esther voor de Poorte from Holland. We are grateful to all our supporters who stand with us and help us continue our work. You are welcome to visit any time!

Krisztina Majlat returned to Veritas after a two-year parental leave. She works in the kitchen and is responsible for keeping the foundation building clean. She has three children. She loves movies, traveling and spending quality time with her family.



Krisztina Majlat

DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE

We are experiencing increased growth in the number of people attending the elderly clubs at Veritas and we are beginning to explore what additional work Veritas may want to consider for engaging this population. With more and more young people leaving Romania to find employment in other EU countries, more and more elderly are left alone, without family support. How can we help meet this need? Your prayers are needed as we explore the next steps in this ministry. We want to continue to discern and follow God's leading for us into the future.

YOU CAN HELP

As always, we could not offer services to our beneficiaries without your financial help. Your donations are used carefully and prayerfully to make programs possible. As we enter 2025, please consider one-time or monthly donations to Veritas. All donations are tax deductible.

Online donations can be made at: <https://give.ncm.org/donate/134477>

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

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.

Wherever you live you can donate through PayPal:
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