

Veritas View

Sighisoara, Romania

Fall 2020

We're Back!

Veritas staff began work again on September 14 after six months of being closed due to Covid-19. The first week was spent on facility cleaning and preparing the rooms with the new Covid regulations.

In the same way that school teachers and program directors around the world are needing to find creative ways to teach and lead, so are the staff at Veritas. How can we offer program activities and still keep everyone safe? How can we minimize the contact among clients? As long as Covid restrictions are in place, we will need to continue to brainstorm new ways to operate and to interact with our clients.



Special Needs

On Wed. Sept. 23, the Special Needs program reopened with seven participants. Due to distancing regulations and the size of our room, we needed to limit the program (for now) to those who most needed to attend: those who had no social life outside of their homes, and those with more severe disabilities. Even so, two parents are unwilling to send their adult children to the program because of fear of Covid. We hope that we can soon include the rest of the group once again.

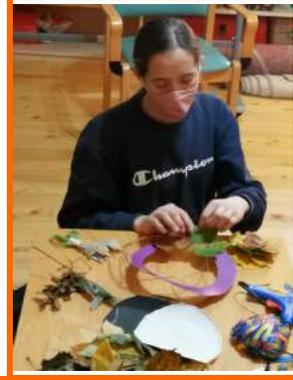
Kids' Club

Sept. 24 marked the first day back for the after school kids' program. Children come in two groups, each for two hours. Restrictions for the groups include no singing, no individual crafts that require shared equipment, temperatures taken and hands disinfected before they meet, tables and chairs 1.5 meters apart and disinfected between groups, and masks worn by students and teachers.



Adolescent Club

The teen group comes to Veritas for lunch daily and for help with homework or talking with staff. This group asked if they could start their own program again, so have begun meeting on Thursday afternoons with our new staffer, Claudia Mocanu. Currently there are nine participants.



Elderly Clubs

The elderly clubs began meeting the week of Sept. 28. Ten to twelve members of the Family Center club meet on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. The Baragan group has up to twelve people attending and continues to meet on Wednesdays and Fridays. For some of the elderly who came to the programs previously, the risks are still too high for them to attend at this time. Felicia Hantau, program director, calls or visits those who are still homebound.



New Staff

We are pleased to welcome two new staff members. Roxana Micu comes to us with an MSW and experience working with elderly in Brasov. She is working with Kids' Club and also handling the social work licensing and other paperwork that accompanies social work programs.

Claudia Mocanu is working with the children and adolescents. She received her MSW in Romania and worked in Italy. She is working with children and teens. Claudia spent this past summer studying English with our favorite language teacher Morag Moffat, via the Internet. She and Roxana continue to study English with Morag.



Transport Received

On Friday, Oct. 9, Veritas Foundation received clothing (both new and second-hand), shoes and adult diapers from a transport from Hands of Mercy in Rotterdam, Holland. Veritas staff, clients, and other helpers unloaded 2,500 kg of clothes from six pallets. Summer clothes were taken to storage and second-hand winter clothes, shoes and bedding were distributed to clients and staff the week of Oct. 12. New clothes were taken to the Veritas Bazaar where they are sold on Saturdays. When Petra called to thank the director of the Hands of Mercy project, he responded by saying, "We don't need promotion or thanks. We do what God asks us to do and that is more than enough."



Domnul Pică, a participant in the Elderly Club, helped unload the truck.

Veritas Bazaar



Volunteer Doriana Kadar is selling second-hand and new clothes each Saturday between 10 and 2. Selling the clothes that are donated is a way to produce needed income for Veritas. Since the bazaar re-opened in July sales have been around 2,000 USD.

House on the Rock

In the last issue of this newsletter you read about a plan to start a Spoon Museum in the House on the Rock. Due to the pandemic, the House on the Rock was closed through the summer months and the museum was not opened. The International Cafe re-opened in September and is currently open seven days a week, to take advantage of the tourists that are in the citadel on weekends. Tentative plans are being made to work on the museum during the winter months and open next spring.

Long-time Volunteer Ends Service to Veritas

Elena "Nini" Antal began volunteering at Veritas in September, 2008. For 12 years she worked faithfully as a bookkeeper, making sure all the receipts were turned in for expenses and making the work for our accountant much easier. We wish Nini well as she retires and are grateful for her years of service.



Donor Gift Helps Family

In a February 2020 email we wrote about Marian, who, along with his three brothers, mother and father, live in a clay house that doesn't have electricity. The boys attend the Veritas Kids' Club program where they do their homework, since they don't have light to do it at home. As a result of that email, a former Romanian Study Program student offered to cover the cost of putting electricity in the house. It became clear because of all the red tape involved in getting electricity to the house, that the best option was to buy the family a gas generator. Petra purchased the generator and it was delivered to their home in September. Now Marian and his brothers have light to do their homework. Your gifts make a difference in people's lives!



Prayer Requests

Please pray for creativity and a willingness to experiment with new ways of doing things. Pray for patience and for a good working relationship among staff. We are a smaller group now with a big job of continuing to care for those in need in our community, but the staff are dedicated to this work. Also pray for health for our staff, and clients and their families.

You Can Help

Your finances continue to be a huge blessing to us. Thank you for caring and for sharing your resources. All donations are tax deductible.

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

Or you can send 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.

Sign up for our monthly email news at <http://eepurl.com/gGP6ev>

The email includes short stories of clients and staff, pictures and prayer requests.

Visit our website: www.veritas.ro

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