



Împreună vom da sens vieții!



Annual Report 2008



Angela Achitei

President of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation

In 2008, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation celebrated six years since its establishment as an answer to the need of new, comprehensive services to combat HIV/AIDS. With the mission of improving the quality of life of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people, the foundation offers constant services in three counties from Romania: Iasi, Constanta and Mures, at the same time developing other local, national or international projects.

To us, the year that passed meant a development of the services offered, the adaptation of these services to best answer the existing needs, an increase in the number of beneficiaries, a transfer of know how in the Republic of Moldova, in Ukraine and in Nigeria, as well as the development of a new component - social economy - through the establishment of shelter units in Iasi, Constanta and Tg. Mures, employing 19 young people living with HIV/AIDS, former beneficiaries of our services.

Considering the complexity of the issue, the foundation develops programs on several levels: working directly with HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people through psychological and social assistance, the Youth Club, the Vocational Workshops, scholarships. Another type of intervention is preventing the transmission of the HIV infection in the community through information and behavior change communication campaigns, social and professional integration through mediation and counseling on the labor market, as well as establishing workplaces within the shelter units of our foundation. Last but not least, we were involved in advocacy for promoting and respecting the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Close to the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation are not just the beneficiaries of our services, but also the big number of financers, partners and collaborators. Our orientation to quality has brought well-deserved acknowledgements at local and national level, while the presence of well-oriented and well-trained volunteers is visible in almost all the activities developed.

We invite you to read the history of 2008 at the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation. We wish to thank our beneficiaries who give meaning to our professional existence, the financers and donors who trusted us and made dreams come true; the partners and collaborators who joined us and directly contributed to improving the lives of those in need; the volunteers without whom we could not have made it and who opened their hearts and changed with us The community we serve ...

Angela Achitei





Lindi Endicott

Board Member of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation

Safeguarding the health, rights and dignity of people infected and affected by HIV is, without doubt, a collective venture. This report shares the work of many partnerships. Over the past year Close to You has strengthened engagement with communities and stakeholders, empowered young people and created a movement for change.

Close to You's innovative processes have built the capacity within Romanian communities to articulate problems and priorities and enable dialogue around the difficult issues associated with HIV disease.

On behalf of Close to You's Board of Directors, thank you to the staff and volunteers who, through diligence and commitment, have made these changes possible. In addition, I would like to also express appreciation to the trusts, foundations and individuals that have funded this all-important work. Together we are making a difference.

Lindi Endicott

Petrisor Ostafie

Board Member of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation

As beneficiary of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, 2008 is the certainty that I am not alone, that somewhere in Mures, Constanta or in Iasi there is a team of devoted professionals working for me, for us, for the future of HIV-positive people.

In 2008 I was happy to see HIV-positive friends becoming employees, thus gaining their existence through labor, just like any other person, allowing them to hope and to enjoy each moment.

In 2008, I had the satisfaction of seeing some of my HIV-positive friends becoming students, thus preparing their future.

As former volunteer of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation I was able to see the many activities developed, the new daring projects catching the community and challenging for change and not last, the many opportunities for involvement and the devotion of the volunteers.

As member of the Board of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, I wish to thank beneficiaries, financers, volunteers, collaborators and employees for the time, trust, professionalism, responsibility and generosity you invested in supporting the society we live in and in which we will raise our children. To me, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation is a nursery in which small ideas are cared for with a lot of passion, miraculously growing and becoming wonderful projects.

Petrisor Ostafie





CONTENTS

1. THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS IN ROMANIA	49
2. WHO ARE WE ?	50
3. DIRECT SERVICES - SUPPORT AND CARE FOR HIV/AIDS-INFECTED AND AFFECTED PEOPLE	51
3.1. Social assistance	51
3.2. Psychological assistance	52
3.3. Foster care	52
3.4. The Youth Club	53
3.5. Occupational therapy workshops	54
3.6. Juridical assistance	55
3.7. Scholarships	56
4. INDIRECT SERVICES - PREVENTION OF THE VERTICAL TRANSMISSION OF THE HIV INFECTION IN THE COMMUNITY	56
4.1. Preventing the transmission of the HIV infection in the community	56
4.2. Preventing the vertical (mother to child) transmission of the HIV infection	57
4.3. Preventing the transmission of the HIV infection and harm reduction among detainees	58
4.4. Preventing the risks associated with drug use in the community.	58
5. CAPACITY BUILDING	61

6. ADVOCACY	62
7. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS	63
8. VOLUNTEERISM, AN ORGANIZATIONAL VALUE	65
9. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT	68
10. SOCIAL ECONOMY	70
11. ADV ROMANIA IN THE MASS-MEDIA AND ON-LINE COMMUNICATION	73
12. ADV ROMANIA PUBLICATIONS	74
13. DISTINCTIONS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS	75
14. THE BUDGET OF INCOMES AND EXPENSES	76
15. FINANCERS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORS	81
16. THE ADV ROMANIA TEAM	82
17. THE CENTERS OF ADV ROMANIA - CONTACT INFORMATION	83





IN THIS SECTION

THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS IN ROMANIA

WHO ARE WE?

DIRECT SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HIV/AIDS – SUPPORT
FOR HIV/AIDS-INFECTED AND AFFECTED PEOPLE

INDIRECT SERVICES - PREVENTION OF THE VERTICAL
TRANSMISSION IN THE COMMUNITY

1. THE CONTEXT OF HIV/AIDS IN ROMANIA

During 1985 – June 2008, 15 341 cases of people with HIV/AIDS have been diagnosed in Romania. Most of these cases are of children born between 1989 – 1992, infected through nosocomial transmission (through improperly sterilized medical equipment or blood transfusions). In 2008, the active evidence registered over 9 600 people, the difference up to the number mentioned above being people who have died throughout the years (the majority) and patients lost from evidence. Of the currently active patients, almost 6000 are young people of ages between 15 and 19, at the beginning of their sexual life. Most of them are living in their biological families, fewer of them living in placement centers, family-type modules or in protected apartments.

According to the World Health Organization, in order to know the real number of HIV-infected people, we have to multiply by 15 the number of officially diagnosed cases.

Other than the problems caused by this chronic disease, people living with HIV/AIDS are confronted every day with the intolerance and the lack of information and education of the people around them, generating sometimes primitive manifestations of discrimination. They are denied access into public schools, they are refused health care services and sometimes have to leave the communities in which they are living. Stigma and discrimination are for many of them more difficult to bear than the disease itself.

Discrimination prevents HIV-infected/AIDS-sick people from living a normal life in society, forcing them to hide their diagnosis and even avoiding knowing it. At the same time, the stigma generated by HIV/AIDS perpetuates an unjustified fear towards this subject, towards being informed or taking the test, while discrimination may determine or force HIV-positive people to adopt risky behaviors. To an equal extent, discrimination and stigma of HIV-infected / AIDS-sick people prove to be the most difficult obstacles that can be met in programs for preventing the transmission of the HIV infection.

Everyone can contribute to preventing the situations of marginalization or exclusion and we can offer HIV-positive people the chance to learn and live in an unprejudiced society. On the other hand, by adopting a healthy, risk-free life style, we can prevent the transmission of the HIV infection in the community!



2. WHO ARE WE?

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation is a non-governmental organization, established in February 2002 by Holt International Children's Services with financing from USAID, as an answer to the need for support expressed by HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people and preventing the transmission of the HIV infection in the community. The national headquarters of the foundation is in Iasi, with branches in Constanta and Mures.

Mission and strategic objectives

The mission of the foundation – to improve the quality of life of the HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people from Romania. In view of reaching this mission, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation develops its activity having in mind **4 strategic objectives:**

- 1. To directly answer the needs of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people;**
- 2. To contribute to preventing the transmission of the HIV/AIDS infection in the community;**
- 3. To support the capacity building of social actors involved in the field of HIV/AIDS;**
- 4. To promote the observation and defense of the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people.**

During 6 years (2002-2008), the foundation developed 31 projects / programs in the field, out of which 15 are being continued through financing offered by international organizations, local authorities and our own funds.

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation is certified as supplier of social services through the Certificate no. 0006245, series A/ 12.05.2006 issued by the Department of Labor and Social Protection Iasi and as supplier of professional training through the Decision no. 173/29.03.2007, issued by the National Committee for Adult Professional Training. The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation is also authorized by the Ministry of Labor, Family and Social Protection and by the Ministry of Education, Research and Innovation as supplier of training in manual book-binding.

3. DIRECT SERVICES IN THE FIELD OF HIV/AIDS – SUPPORT FOR HIV/AIDS-INFECTED AND AFFECTED PEOPLE

The activity of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation started with the development of two services taken over from the Holt International Children's Services Organization, our founding member – the service of social assistance and the service of foster care for the HIV-positive child. These services came as a direct support for children at risk or abandoned as result of their HIV/AIDS diagnosis and they supported the child's maintenance within the biological family or finding a family-type alternative for abandoned children, especially for those abandoned in medical units. In time, the changes around the HIV/AIDS issue led to the development of new services that would best answer the existing needs. According to their needs, the beneficiaries of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation from the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties accessed in 2008 the following programs and services:

3.1. SOCIAL ASSISTANCE

Results: 449 HIV-positive people, out of which 41 people accessing this service for the first time benefited of:

- Pre and post test counseling;
- Information with respect to the legal rights;
- Financial support in crisis situations;
- Facilitating the access to community resources in the field;
- Social reinsertion;
- Reintegration in school;

Starting with January 2008, 10 HIV-infected young people from the Iasi county benefit of scholarships for continuing their studies, through the financing offered by Kinderhilfe Rumanien - McKinsey & Company, Germany.

In addition, based on stipulations of the [Law no. 34/1998](#) on subsidizing associations and foundations establishing and administrating social assistance units, the Ministry of Labor, Family and Equality of Chances Iasi, through the Department of Labor and Social Protection, Iasi granted in 2008 amounts for food products for a monthly average of 40 beneficiaries of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation.

Partners:

- The Infectious Diseases Hospitals in Iasi, Constanta and Mures;
- The General Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection in Iasi

Financers:

- Kinderhilfe Rumanien - McKinsey & Company, Germany;
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Project Management Unit within the Ministry of Health;



- The Ministry of Labor, Family and Equality of Chances Iasi, through the Department of Labor and Social Protection, Iasi;
- Holt International Children's Services, USA.

3.2. PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE

Results: -2397 individual or group psychological interventions, aiming at:

- Health education; promoting health and a healthy life style;
- Counseling specific to medical objectives (acceptance of HIV diagnosis, increasing the adherence to treatment, changing the life-style);
- Psychological evaluation;
- Supportive therapy and counseling ;
- Counseling through crisis situations;
- Short-term therapy focusing on the issue, prevention, recovery and re-education;

Partners:

- The General Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection in Iasi;
- The Infectious Diseases Hospitals in Iasi, Constanta and Mures;

Financers:

- Kinderhilfe Rumanien - McKinsey & Company, Germany;
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Project Management Unit within the Ministry of Health;
- Holt International Children's Services, USA.



3.3. FOSTER CARE

Results: - 9 young people and their foster families from the Constanta and Mures counties benefited in 2008 of:

- Counseling;
- Development of independent life skills;
- School and professional orientation;
- Financial support.

Financers:

- The Moschino Foundation, Italy



3.4. THE YOUTH CLUB

"Finally, 2 years after I had found out about my disease, I realized how important are to me the meetings at the Youth Club and the positive influence they have had. With their help, I can smile in my heart too, not just with my face; I started wearing white clothes, I accepted myself. Together with the other young people at the Youth Club I discovered qualities I did not think I had. I used to be weeping, but now I am brave, I became a winner because we must be an example and face any issue heads up. I can't imagine my life, had it not been for the Youth Club. It's where I got the support I needed, not the financial one and the positive discrimination I was subject to from the people who loved me"

These are the words of a 17 years old HIV-infected young girl, a member of the Youth Club from the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, the Iasi National Headquarters. And what better life lesson we could receive, other than the one from a young girl who learned to live beautifully, even though she bears in her heart the weight of a disease ...



Results: - 202 HIV-infected and healthy young people benefited of the following services within the three Youth Clubs in Iasi, Constanta and TMures:

- Educational activities (conversations on different subjects of common interest, including sexual and health education);
- Recreational activities (dancing and acting classes, searching the internet, walks in the city, going to cinema, making jewelry and decorations, parties on different occasions, etc.);
- Activities for acquiring independent life skills (shopping, cooking, household activities);
- Sports activities (bowling, riding the bicycle or the roller skates, ping pong, basketball, volleyball, badminton, football, skating, etc.);
- Play activities (puzzle games, darts, chess, backgammon, computer games, Metropolly, Monopoly, domino, etc.);
- Volunteering activities (information campaigns, debates, seminars and administrative activities, etc.);
- Special events (camps, trips, celebrating birthdays, etc.);

Starting with September 2008, the Youth Club service is being replicated in the Republic of Moldova within a project of neighborhood cooperation. Through the project ending in 2009, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and its partner on the project – the Echo of Chernobyl Foundation from the Republic of Moldova wish to strengthen the system of psychological and social support for disabled young people, including infected and affected with HIV/AIDS from Iasi-Romania and Chisinau – the Republic of Moldova.

Partners:

- The General Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection in Iasi;
- Echo of Chernobyl Foundation, Chisinau, the Republic of Moldova.

Financers:

- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation;
- The European Commission through the 2006 Phare program.

In 2008, we established the Consultative Youth Board, with consultative role within the Board of Trustees of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation. For further details on the program, please access the site www.clubultinerilor.eu

3.5. VOCATIONAL WORKSHOPS

Results: in 2008, 99 young people from the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties benefited of training in the following lines of work:

- Book-binding and printing;
- Computer use;
- Painting;
- Arts and crafts;
- Tailoring;
- Decorative candles.



At the beginning of 2008 4 other workshops have become functional: computer use in Constanta and Mures, tailoring in Constanta and decorative candles in Mures.

Partners:

- The General Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection in Iasi;

Financers:

- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation;
- European Children's Help Organization, UK (until the end of April).

For further details on the program, please access the site www.utildeco.ro

3.6. JURIDICAL ASSISTANCE

Results:

- 63 HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people benefited of juridical information and consultancy after their rights have been violated;
- 5 persons benefited of legal assistance in front of the court of law for the violation of their rights;
- 2 information sessions regarding on-going legislative regulations in the field of HIV/AIDS, attended by 57 HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people from the Vaslui county;
- 3 debates with representatives of local public authorities and specialists from the psychological, social and medical fields from the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties in order to ensure their capacity building for respecting and granting the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people, in order to improve the procedures for receiving the legal rights and for preventing situations of discrimination;
- 1 workshop addressing 19 representatives of NGOs activating in the field of HIV/AIDS, having as goal to increase the level of information with respect to handling the cases of violations of rights of HIV-infected people, as well as for increasing the degree of involvement in promoting and defending the rights of people living with this disease;
- Materials for promoting the service: press releases, press articles, the website www.juridic.alaturidevoi.ro;
- Elaboration and printing 4 000 copies of the brochure "Demand assistance!".

Partners:

- The Prefect's Institution from the Iasi, Constanta, Mures and Vaslui counties;
- The Iris Association in Vaslui;
- The "Speranta Copiilor 2000 Barlad" Association from Barlad.

Financers:

- The European Commission through the Phare Program;
- The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation.



3.7. SCHOLARSHIPS

Results:

- In 2008 we continued giving the study scholarships, with amounts between 70 and 140 Euro month / beneficiary, for 10 HIV-infected young people from the Iasi county. The scholarships will be given until June 2010.

Financer:

- Kinderhilfe Rumänien - McKinsey & Company, Germany;

4. INDIRECT SERVICES – PREVENTING THE TRANSMISSION OF THE HIV INFECTION IN THE COMMUNITY

Our foundation initiated this component in 2003, as an answer to the annual increase in the number of HIV-infected people and in agreement with the national strategy in HIV/AIDS, which places an important accent on prevention, aiming especially at groups at risks and the communities affected.

In the field of preventing the transmission of the HIV infection, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation acted in four directions:

4.1. Preventing the transmission of the HIV infection in the community

This type of intervention takes place through IEC (information, education and communication) campaigns and through BCC (behavior change communication) campaigns addressing pupils, young people, teachers, parents, convicts, students, authorities and people from the community. According to the target group and the level of information they have, the accent is placed on information about HIV/AIDS; hepatitis B and C; sexually transmitted infections (STI); drug use; family planning; sexual education and preventing the discrimination of people living with HIV/AIDS. Upon request, the people present at the campaign can also do take the HIV test free, with support from the Public Health Authority. The campaigns are being developed in partnership with: the School District Authorities; the Public Health Authorities; the Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling against the Use of Drugs; the City Hall – the Local Council, schools and other nongovernmental organizations, especially student organizations.

Results of the information and communication campaigns developed in the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties in 2008:



- Pupils – 3.817
- Teachers – 270
- Parents – 566
- Students – 1.685
- Doctors – 100
- Professionals in the field – 1.171
- People from the community – 14.357
- TOTAL – 21.966

During information campaigns there were distributed 37.285 condoms accompanied by 41.080 informative materials edited in the form of flyers, brochures, book marks, guidelines, etc.

These campaigns are financed 30-40% from funds ensured by McKinsey&Company from Germany. The rest of the financing is ensured through volunteers' involvement and own funding especially from funds gathered within the 2% campaigns, through which taxpayers can redirect this percentage of the tax on income to a non-governmental organization.

For further details on the program, please access the sites www.hivsida.ro and www.1decembrie.eu

4.2. Preventing the vertical (mother to child) transmission of the HIV infection



The service started in April 2004, through the financing offered by the Global Fund to Fight against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, in partnership with the Public Health Authorities from the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties. The goal of this service is to prevent the transmission of the HIV infection from mother to child through ensuring the free HIV test in the first quarters of pregnancy and after the pre HIV test counseling. The program addresses especially pregnant women from rural areas, but not just them. There is ensured a permanent team made up by a counselor from the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and a nurse from the Public Health Authority who go at the health care facilities from villages and ensure this service free. This service is covered partially in the Cuza Voda Maternity from Iasi and in the Maternities from Sighisoara, Reghin and Ludus in the Mures county. In 2008, the service was ensured only in the Iasi and Mures counties.

In case the pregnant woman is diagnosed as being HIV-positive in the first quarter of pregnancy, there can be taken precaution measures, thus the chances of the child for not becoming infected with HIV are 95% in Romania. The pregnant women diagnosed as being HIV-positive can benefit upon request of a package of social and psychological services offered by CTY through our counseling rooms. This makes it a lot easier for the pregnant women diagnosed as being HIV-positive to overcome the crisis situation caused by diagnosis disclosure, specialists can prevent the abandonment of the child, there is offered support in obtaining the legal rights, material support and health education. In 2008, 1646 pregnant women from the Iasi and Mures counties benefited of HIV counseling and testing.



4.3. Prevention of the transmission of the HIV infection and harm reduction among detainees



The project “Initiative 38 – program to prevent HIV in penitentiaries” started in July 2008 and has as goal to increase the access of detainees from Romanian correctional facilities to programs of prevention of HIV, of sexually transmitted infections and drug use. The project is financed by The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation. It brings together five non-governmental organization from Romania, with experience in advocacy and prevention services for groups at risk for HIV – Romanian Harm Reduction Network (RHRN), the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, ARAS (Romanian Association against AIDS, ALIAT (The Alliance for fighting against Alcoholism and Toxicomanies) and the Integration Association. The project is developed in partnership with the National Administration of Penitentiaries and the National Agency against Drugs.

The main activities consist of:

- Development of peer education trainings for detainees;
- Information sessions in HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections and the risks associated with drug use;
- Distribution among detainees of informative materials and safe sex articles (condoms and lubricants).

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation develops these activities in 17 penitentiaries from Romania – Aiud, Bacau, Bistrita, Botosani, Braila, Constanta, the Dej Hospital Penitentiary, Galati, Iasi, Miercurea Ciuc, Targu-Mures, The Targu-Ocna Reeducation Centre, the Targu Ocna Hospital Penitentiary, The Penitentiary for Under age and young people from Tichilesti, Tulcea, Vaslui and the penitentiary for adults within the National School for Training Penitentiary Agents from Targu-Ocna.

Results for 2008:

- 17 penitentiary units benefited of the services offered by our foundation;
- 5508 peer educators trained from among detainees;
- 3.643 convicts informed about the HIV infection, other sexually transmitted infections and about preventing drug use;
- 36.180 safe sex articles (condoms and lubricants) distributed for free.

4.4. Harm reduction associated with drug use in the community

Through the pilot project “Caught in parallel worlds” developed during December 2007- December 2008, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation has established a new service addressing directly drug users from the city of Iasi.

“Caught in parallel worlds” was financed by UNODC and the Department of Community Assistance in Iasi, being developed in partnership with the Public Health Authority in Iasi, the Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling against the Use of Drugs Iasi (CPECA), The County Police Department, the Socola Psychiatric Hospital in Iasi and the Maximum Safety Penitentiary in Iasi.

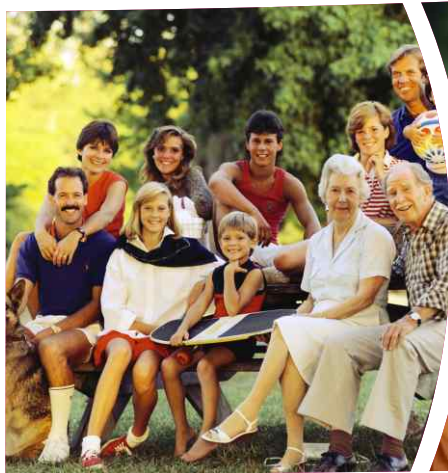


Through this project, the foundation expanded its area of intervention in the field of HIV/AIDS addressing young people potentially drug users from the city of Iasi. In a practical manner, it covered an empty spot at community level through three types of activities:

- Mapping in the street, in clubs and in the penitentiary;
- Outreach;
- Counseling in view of harm reduction.

Results:

- 954 young people from the community informed during 129 mapping activities;
- 2320 young people informed during 8 information campaigns in clubs in Iasi;
- 51 young people counseled;
- 5 drug users referred for HIV and HVB testing to the Public Health Authority in Iasi;
- 7407 condoms and 3290 informative brochures distributed for free.





IN THIS SECTION

CAPACITY BUILDING

ADVOCACY

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS

VOLUNTEERISM – AN ORGANIZATIONAL VALUE

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL ECONOMY

5. CAPACITY BUILDING

Starting from the reality that people are important resources for preventing the transmission of the HIV infection and drug use in the community, as well as for combating the discrimination of people living with HIV, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and its partners developed during 2007 several capacity-building activities such as: Summer Schools and trainings addressing 670 people.

1. Trainings in the field of HIV/AIDS for:

- 21 prevention officers from counties of the Moldova region. The training took place during March 12 – 14 2008 within the project “Together for observing rights” financed by the European Commission through the Phare Program. Prevention officers acquired knowledge and abilities to promote the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people and the legislation in the field. This helped them elaborate the guidelines “Together for observing rights” addressing proximity policemen and policemen from rural areas. The guidelines contain information about HIV/AIDS issues, focusing on the legislation in the field.
- 51 proximity policemen from the Iasi and Vaslui counties. The trainings took place during April 16 – 18 and April 21 – 23 within the project “Together for observing rights” financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. The policemen acquired information in view of promoting the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people, the legislation in the field and applying it correctly and in a non-discriminatory way.
- 14 young people, unemployed for more than 6 months, from rural and urban areas of the Iasi county, have been trained in IT within the project “Investment for the future” financed by the European Commission through the Phare Program. After having graduated, the young people received graduation certificates acknowledged on the labor market.
- 508 detainees have been trained as peer educators within the project “Initiative 38 – project to prevent HIV in penitentiaries”. The trainings have been developed during September – December in 15 penitentiaries from Romania, and will continue in 2009 as well. The peer educators trained have had the role of disseminating the information acquired during training to the other detainees, for reducing the risks of contacting or transmitting the HIV infection. The topics approached during training have been related to the sexual transmission of HIV/other STIs, the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people, the blood transmission of different infections, topics related to drug use and harm reduction, as well as about the services available for drug users.
- 55 representatives of NGOs and local authorities from the Republic of Moldova and the neighborhood region of Romania benefited of two trainings developed within the project “Together for a healthy community” financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. “Communication in NGOs and public institutions of social assistance and volunteers’ management” and “Advocacy and lobby. Project sustainability and community involvement in solving social issues and volunteers’ management” are the topics approached in the two trainings. As result of these trainings, the participants acquired, on the one hand, abilities for a comprehensive approach of HIV/AIDS, in the field of community through public relations campaigns, management of crisis situations and volunteers’ managements, as well as in developing lobby and advocacy campaigns, communications in crisis situations. The partners on the project are the Iasi City Hall and the “Tineri si liberi” (Young and Free) Resource Centre from the Republic of Moldova.
- 21 young people, unemployed for more than 6 months, from rural and urban areas of the Iasi county, have been trained in manual book-binding within the project “Investment for the future” financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. After having graduated, the young people received graduation certificates acknowledged on the labor market.



2. The Summer School

○ Target group: - 30 young people (HIV-positive young people, volunteers, young people from institutions, and healthy young people from the community) from the Youth Clubs in Iasi, Constanta and Mures. The Summer School entitled "Education for life!" took place during June 23 - 25 in Frasin, the Suceava county. It has been the 7th edition, the fifth at national level, with financing from The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation and from McKinsey&Company, Germany. The 2008 edition allowed the establishment of the Youth Council, made up of 14 young people (10 HIV-infected young people and 4 healthy young people) with consultative role with the Board of Trustees of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation. For further details on the event, please access www.scoaladevara.alaturidevoi.ro



6. ADVOCACY

In 2008, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation organized several debates with local authorities which had as goal to increase their awareness and involvement in preventing the transmission of the HIV infection in the community, as well as to promote and defend the rights of people living with HIV.

Another component is the social and professional integration of young people living with HIV. We organized several debates with representatives of non-governmental organizations from Romania activating in the field, as well as for local and governmental authorities involved in this approach.

Both components have been developed as part of different projects we are still developing:

- 5 debates attended by 117 representatives of local public authorities from the Iasi, Constanta, Mures and Vaslui counties in which we were signaled the most frequent violations of rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people. The debates aimed at the

capacity building of representatives of institutions responsible with observing and granting the rights of HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people, in view of rendering more effective the procedures for obtaining the legal rights in the case of HIV-positive people and of preventing the violation of different rights. The activities took place within the project "Consolidating and Replicating the Service of Information, Consultancy and Juridical Assistance for HIV/AIDS-infected and Affected People" implemented during December 1, 2007 – September 30 2008. Details at www.juridic.alaturidevoi.ro

- 1 workshop attended by 17 participants from 7 NGOs from Romania activating in the field of HIV/AIDS, the objectives of this event being to increase the degree of information on handling the cases of violations of rights of HIV-positive people, as well as to increase the degree of their involvement in promoting and defending the rights of people living with the disease. The activity took place within the project "Consolidating and replicating the service of information, consultancy and juridical assistance for HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people" implemented during December 1, 2007 – September 30 2008. Details at www.juridic.alaturidevoi.ro
- 10 debates attended by 212 representatives of local public authorities from the Iasi and Vaslui counties (mayors, local counselors, general practitioners, teachers, priests, and community social workers). The debates had as goal to prevent the transmission of the HIV and to defend the rights of people living with HIV. The activities took place within the project "Together for observing rights", implemented during December 19, 2007 – October 18, 2008.
- 1 work seminar with local authorities from the Iasi, Constanta and Mures counties, having as goal to identify the solutions through which each institution can get involved in the process of social and professional integration of young people living with HIV/AIDS. The event took place within the project "shelter workshops" implemented during July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2009.

7. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS

The campaign "Open your heart! I am the same as you!"

Each year, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation celebrates World AIDS Day. In 2008, in November and December, in the three sites of the foundation there were developed several events under the slogan of the national campaign "Open your heart! I am the same as you!". The events took place in partnership with 111 local authorities, NGOs, government institutions, learning institutions, the mass media. The campaign benefited of financing from UNAIDS and of co-financing from the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation.

The campaign had two components: promotion through media and direct activities.



1. The promotion through media:

- Site www.1decembrie.eu (over 6000 sole visitors)
- The event newsletter sent to 1854 subscribers of the sites;
- Radio ad promoting the event, broadcasted in the three counties - 2 local radio stations / 2 ads per day
- TV ad promoting the event, broadcasted during the period in the three counties – 2 local television stations / 2 ads per day;
- Press ad for each county, appearing in 2 local newspapers during 3 days;
- 3 press conferences.

2. Direct activities:

- 23 information activities in schools, high-schools, student campuses, night clubs, penitentiaries (over 6000 persons informed);
- 200 persons voluntarily took the HIV test – we were offered an indicator of the situation of HIV/AIDS among the general population and a very good result of the information activities;
- 2400 persons made the human ribbon in Iasi, Constanta and Tg. Mures – in Iasi it has been the biggest human ribbon in Romania;
- 111 partners involved;
- 1500 candles; 200 posters; 2000 flyers made by the 19 HIV-infected young people employed at the shelter unit of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation

For further details on the program, please access the site: www.1decembrie.eu

The campaign 2% - sign of life!

In 2008, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation developed in the sites in Iasi, Constanta and Mures the campaign "2 % sign of life" aiming at raising awareness and determining people from the community to direct 2% of the tax on income for 2007 to programs in the field of HIV/AIDS. 23 707 persons benefited during 2008 of behavior change communication campaigns, thanks to the amount of 30 953 lei directed to our foundation through this campaign.

For further details on the program, please access the site: www.doilasuta.alaturidevoi.ro



8. VOLUNTEERISM – AN ORGANIZATIONAL VALUE

The volunteerism program was part of the foundation ever since it was established, because we started from the premise that it represents an organizational value and an important resource for reaching the mission for which the foundation was established.

In 2008, we received 218 demands from people who wanted to be our volunteers. After the selection process, there were signed volunteerism agreements with 32 people: pupils, students, even with beneficiaries of the foundation. The volunteer activities aim both at working directly with the beneficiaries and at involvement in the prevention programs.

In their day-by-day activities, the volunteers:

- can attend, together with other employees of the foundation the information, education and communication campaigns developed;
- develop activities of development of independent life skills with the young people coming at the Youth Clubs in Iasi, Constanta and Mures;
- help the young people do different home assignments;
- together with the HIV-positive young people, they get involved in the development of the vocational workshops - book-binding, arts and crafts, computer use, painting, tailoring, decorative candles;
- get involved in organizing the special events for young people (parties, camps, trips, etc.);
- they can get involved in organizing trainings, conferences, debates, the Summer School;



- contribute directly to planning and developing the activities developed during the National Week of Volunteerism and on the occasion of the Volunteer's Day;
- they can get involved in different administrative activities;



In 2008, the volunteers developed a total number of 5 356 hours, the value added by their activities being of approximately 63 762 lei, the equivalent of 2.7 full time positions / 12 months / average salary. The organization's success on the volunteerism program was of approximately 2.5 units.

The volunteers were involved in the following domains:

Volunteer involvement	TOTAL hours
Direct services for the foundation's beneficiaries	2525

Services of preventing the transmission of the HIV infection	678
Capacity building in the field	706
Special events for the beneficiaries	590
Administrative activities	857
TOTAL	5356

The volunteerism program has been acknowledged at the “Volunteers Gala” organized in Iasi through the award won under the category “The most creative volunteer in a non-governmental organization” – won by Ina Gutu, one of our volunteers.

Testimonies of volunteers

“In my journey through life, I stopped for a while at the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and they have been hosting me for almost one year.

I dearly remembers the beginning ... my first meeting with the beneficiaries at the Youth Club, organizing a press conference for the first time, the special events I attended. These are only some of my activities as volunteer, making me feel useful and at the end of which I get a warm “Thank you!”

I don't want to give a dictionary definition of voluntarism to share with you, my reader; I will only say that to me voluntarism means desire to get involved, responsibility and inner satisfaction. Every time I go to the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, I learn something new from the volunteers' coordinator, from my fellow volunteers, and from the activities I develop.

It is difficult to put in words the satisfaction of being a volunteer with the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, but it is nice to see smiles you contributed to on the faces of the people around.”

Georgiana Melenciuc, 20 years, Iasi

“To me, being a volunteer with the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation means a lot, because thanks to voluntarism I learned very many things and I receive life lessons because I interact with many people and I see different people. I am also happy to be able to help and that I can inform people about HIV/AIDS, in order to diminish discrimination”.

C.G., 20 years, Constanta

To me, being a volunteer means in the first place that I am able to help HIV-positive people and to be close to them, especially from the moral point of view, because they so need our moral



support. At the same time, I had the opportunity to meet other volunteers and I am happy to have been able to do so. I am happy to be part of this wonderful team and I hope I can be close to you.”

Pop Ana Maria, 21 years, volunteer ADV Mures

“Voluntarism is described by most people as work you do out your own will, to the use of the community or of the environment. I see it as the opportunity we have to initiate the change in the people around, especially within us.

Throughout my activities with the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, I found out I am able to do something in order to change things for the better. Whatever the activities I had to do – administrative, information campaigns or the time I spent with the beneficiaries – every time I had the chance to see things around me in a different perspective, sort of like a life lesson. And all the lessons gathered together, all the surprises, the excitement and the sadness, the new friends make me say for sure they have changed me for the better.”

Oana Mihoc, 19 years, Iasi

“Being a volunteer at the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation made me see things in a different way ... to learn, listen.... to get to know people according to other criteria, because during information campaigns I was able to meet different kinds of people ... I have made new friends among volunteers and at the same time I tried to do something against discrimination together with the other volunteers”.

I.D., 20 years, Constanta

“Being a volunteer means more than a nice experience, it is a life lesson, an opportunity to establish a correct set of values. Since I have been a volunteer of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation, I have met new people, new life stories and new ways of understanding it; I have made new friends and I learned many things about teamwork. You learn to be useful by learning many things which will be useful in the future, both for a future career, teamwork, and for a harmonious personal development.”

Ghica Mihaela, 22 years, volunteer ADV Mures

9. INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR DEVELOPMENT

As EU member state, Romania has the obligation and the responsibility to participate in the policy of international cooperation for development of the European Union, contributing to the development of poor countries in the world and to create efficient and transparent mechanisms for financial assistance.

Starting with 2006, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation has become a member of the Federation of Nongovernmental Organizations for Development from Romania (FOND), with approximately 40 member organizations. FOND is the main partner of the Romanian Government in the process of implementation of the national cooperation policy of cooperation for development and humanitarian assistance. Details at: www.fondromania.org

In 2008, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation contributed in the field through transfer of know-how and experience in the field of HIV/AIDS for:



- **14 representatives of governmental and private institutions (NGOs) from Ukraine, who attended during October 21 - 22** in the site in Constanta training on the foster care service / placement for HIV-infected children. The training covered topics like the methodology and the work instruments, recruitment and selection of families for placement, preparing the children and the foster parents for the placement; placement monitoring; support after the placement. It has been a contract signed between the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation.

- **3 representatives of a delegation from Nigeria**, members of the management team of the Vision Child Youth of Africa Foundation, attended at the end of 2008 in Iasi a transfer of experience. Interested in the experience of our foundation in offering direct services to HIV-infected and affected people, prevention services, advocacy, fundraising, corporate social responsibility, project and organizational management, the team from Nigeria had the opportunity to become familiar with the history and the mission of our foundation, to find out information about the programs developed or under development, as well as about plans for the future. The guests were also able to attend the training "Communication in NGOs and public institutions of social assistance and volunteers' management" developed within the project "Together for a healthy community" financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. It has been a contract signed between the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation and Vision Child Youth Africa.



- **75 representatives of NGOs and local authorities from the Republic of Moldova and the neighborhood region of Romania** benefited of two trainings developed within the project "Together for a healthy community" financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. "Communication in NGOs and public institutions of social assistance and volunteers' management" and "Advocacy and lobby. Project sustainability and community involvement in solving social issues and volunteers' management" are the topics approached in the two trainings. As result of these trainings, the participants acquired, on the one hand, abilities for a comprehensive approach of HIV/AIDS, in the field of community through public relations campaigns, management of crisis situations and volunteers' managements, as well as in developing lobby and advocacy campaigns, communication in crisis situations. The partners on the project are the Iasi City Hall and the "Tineri si liberi" (Young and Free) Resource Centre from the Republic of Moldova.

- **14 persons from the Republic of Moldova**, working or activating in fields related to HIV/AIDS participated at study visits in Romania, having the opportunity to see models of intervention in the field, both in the governmental and non-governmental sector. The activity took place within the project "Together for a healthy community", financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. The partners on the project are the Iasi City Hall and the "Tineri si liberi" (Young and Free) Resource Centre from the Republic of Moldova.
- Starting with September 2008, we started developing the project "Social insertion without borders" financed by the European Commission through the Phare Program, within which, through the partnership with the Echo of Chernobyl Foundation from the Republic of Moldova we will replicate in Chisinau the service the Youth Club developed by the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation in Iasi, Constanta and Mures.



10. SOCIAL ECONOMY



2008 meant a new beginning for the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation through the authorization of the first shelter unit– Util Deco - in Iasi, in Mures and in Constanta. Since then, we sent the documentation in view of authorizing other two shelter units .

WHY SHELTER UNITS?

- They represent an active form of integration on the labor market of disabled young people, including young people infected with HIV, supporting them throughout the process of their passing from beneficiary to employee.
- For some of the people within the target group, employment in a shelter unit is the only chance for professional integration, due to a low ability to work.
- They have the role to prepare and adapt the beneficiaries employed for the integration on the free labor market (at other workplaces), according to their qualification and abilities.

During 2008, we employed at the shelter units 19 beneficiaries, out of which 13 in Iasi, 3 in Constanta and 3 in Mures. They learned for the first time what it means to be an employee and to have responsibilities.

The UTIL DECO shelter unit– Iasi

(Authorization for functioning as shelter unit no. 323/18.06.2008):

- Xerox centre;

- Manual book-binding and archiving services;
- Personalized products – calendars, agendas, present bags, etc;
- Arts and crafts decorative objects;
- Manually painted objects;

The UTIL DECO shelter unit – Mures

(authorization to function as shelter unit no. 463 / 07.05.2009):

- Decorative candles;
- Personalized candles;
- Personalized products – calendars, agendas, etc;
- Graphic for promotion materials, cards, business cards, wedding or baptism invitations.

The UTIL DECO shelter unit – Constanta

(authorization to function as shelter unit no. 464 / 07.05.2009):

- Clothing articles, accessories, tablecloths, bed sheets, carnival costumes;
- Personalized embroideries;
- Graphic for promotion materials, cards, business cards, wedding or baptism invitations;
- Personalized products – calendars, agendas, etc;

Partner: The General Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection, Iasi

Financers:

- The Local Council – the Department of Community Assistance, Iasi
- The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation
- European Children's Help Organization, UK

Testimonies of employees at the shelter units:

- "The workplace is a plus, because it teaches us responsibility ", I.M., 19 years
- "We could not have found a job elsewhere because of the disease. Here we are understood, both from the point of view of the diagnosis and from the point of view of making the products, until we are able to make them perfect ", A.A. 19 years
- "The best news I received was when I found out I am employed, because it was a change for the better in the way I was seen", E.S., years

The products and services offered at the three shelter units can be seen and ordered at www.utildeco.ro





IN THIS SECTION

ADV IN THE MASS-MEDIA AND ON-LINE COMMUNICATION

PUBLICATIONS

DISTINCTIONS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

THE BUDGET OF INCOMES AND EXPENSES

FINANCERS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

THE TEAM

CONTACT INFORMATION

11. ADV IN THE MASS-MEDIA AND ON-LINE COMMUNICATION

Having correct information about the transmission of the HIV infection is the key to changing mentalities in the community with respect to the acceptance of people living with HIV, just like assuming a responsible and risk-free life style.

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation accepted this concept and invested a lot in disseminating information on as many communication channels as possible, thus reaching groups of beneficiaries of different ages and preoccupations.

The official site www.alaturidevoi.ro

- 75.695 sole users in 2008;
- 17 new members on the forum;
- 12 electronic newsletters sent to approximately 1700 subscribers;
- 47 press releases posted on the foundation's website and on different communication sites;
- 99 articles in the field of HIV/AIDS posted as result of the monitoring of the on-line media;

Off-line mass-media

- 43 articles published in newspapers and magazines;
- 32 TV appearances, out of which half have been participation in broadcasts;
- 44 radio appearances, out of which over 18 have been participation in broadcasts;

Media campaigns

- The campaign "Open your heart! I am the same as you!" – www.1decembrie.eu
- The campaign "2% sign of life!" – www.doilasuta.alaturidevoi.ro

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation created in 2008 5 thematic sites:

- www.pentrusanatate.eu
- www.hivsida.ro
- www.1decembrie.eu
- www.utildeco.ro
- www.clubultinerilor.eu



**E timpul
pentru o schimbare !**



12. PUBLICATIONS

GUIDES / BROCHURES / REPORTS

- **The brochure “Demand assistance!” edited in 4 000 copies**
The brochure was made within the project “Consolidating and Replicating the Service of Information, Consultancy and Juridical Assistance for HIV/AIDS-infected and Affected People” developed by the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation in partnership with the Prefect’s Institution from the Iasi, Constanta, Mures and Vaslui counties; The Iris Association in Vaslui; The “Speranta Copiilor 2000 Barlad” Association from Barlad, being financed by the European Commission through the Phare Program. The work addresses especially HIV/AIDS-infected and affected people from Romania, as well as all those who wish to learn more information about the legislation in the field of HIV/AIDS.
- **Guidelines “Together for observing rights”, edited in 2160 copies**
The guidelines have been made within the project “Together for observing rights” developed by the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation in partnership with the Institute for Research and Crime Prevention from Bucharest, The Iasi County Police Department, The Vaslui County Police Department, being financed by the European Commission through the Phare program. The guidelines address proximity policemen and prevention policemen from rural areas and contain information about HIV/AIDS issues, focusing on the legislation in the field.
- **Reedition of the guidelines “Window to Myself”** – The guidelines have been made within the project “Developing the social and psychological support system for persons infected and affected with HIV/AIDS” developed by the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation in partnership with UNOPA and the Infectious Diseases Hospital – the HIV/AIDS Regional Centre Iasi. The program has been financed by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria. The guidelines are at the third edition, bringing further information about legislation and recent treatment and diagnosis of HIV/AIDS. The guidelines are an important resource for people living with HIV.
- **The brochure “Read me. Believe me. Do something” – 6000 copies**
This brochure was made within the project “Caught in Parallel Worlds” developed by the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation in partnership with the Public Health Authority in Iasi, the Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling against the Use of Drugs Iasi (CPECA), The County Police Department, the Socola Psychiatric Hospital in Iasi and the Maximum Safety Penitentiary in Iasi, being financed by the Iasi City Hall through the Department of Community Assistance in Iasi. The brochure contains information about harm reduction, the services in the city of Iasi related to drug use and information about the consequences of this act. The brochure was given to people from the community during information campaign and the mapping activities.

FLYERS / POSTERS

- Bookmark on how HIV is (not) transmitted – 36.000 copies
- Poster “The chart of rights” – 720 copies

13. DISTINCTIONS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

- The national campaign “I get involved for you” has received an honorable mention at the 6th edition of the Gala of the Civil Society under “Civic behavior and public participation”.
- At the Gala for granting the awards for the NESsT Social Enterprises Competition, the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation has received a special award and specialized business consultancy for the development of the shelter unit for 3 years, being one of the 5 winners in the competition.
- In December, the annual report of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation received from the Donors Forum in Romania and ProVobis Cluj the award for the best reflection of volunteer activities.
- The volunteerism program has been acknowledged at the “Volunteers Gala” organized in Iasi by the Bethany Foundation for Social Services through the award “The most creative volunteer in a non-governmental organization”.
- The Iasi National Headquarters of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation received from the Prefect’s Institution from Iasi a merit diploma for the partnerships achieved in 2008 with the Prefect’s Institution, the Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling against Drugs, the Public Health Authority, the Department of Labor and Social Protection, the Iasi County Police Department.
- At 5 years since the establishment of the National Agency against Drugs, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Administrative Reforms through the National Agency against Drugs gave our foundation an Excellency diploma for the special contribution to implementing the policies against drugs in Romania.



14. THE BUDGET OF INCOMES AND EXPENSES

REVENUES

No.	INCOME SOURCE	AMOUNT in LEI	USD 2,5189	EURO 3,6827
1	Donations and sponsorships	104206,63	41369,90	28296,26
2	EU Funds through PHARE programs	1019862,05	404883,90	276933,24
3	- McKinsey&Company, Germany	181969,62	72241,70	49412,01
	- Holt International Children's Services	30549,29	12128,03	8295,35
	- Moschino Foundation, Italy	41867,60	16621,38	11368,72
	- NESsT	22669,85	8999,00	6155,77
	- UNAIDS	21297,50	8455,08	5783,12
	- Global Fund through the Project Management Unit within the Ministry of Health	122331,59	48565,48	33217,91
	- Global Fund through the Romanian Angel Appeal Foundation	937878,77	372336,64	254671,51
	- European Children's Help Organization, U.K.	7779,54	3088,47	2112,46
	- FONPC	5615,00	2229,15	1524,70
	- UNODC	11270,49	4474,37	3060,39
	- The Iasi City Hall - The Local Council	2768,00	10988,92	7516,22

3	- UNICEF	6008,00	2385,17	1631,41
	- The Department of Community Assistance Iasi	68315,00	27120,97	18550,25
	TOTAL Other projects financed:	1485232,25	589635,26	403299,82
4	VAT recovery	80175,57	31829,60	21770,87
5	The Law 76/2002	26304,00	10442,65	7142,59
6	Structural Funds	397872,94	157955,04	108038,38
7	Surplus 2007	114814,42	45581,17	31176,70
8	Subsidies from the Local Budget - The Department of Labor and Social Protection	4272,00	16959,78	11600,18
9	- Exploitation revenues	79825,88	31690,77	21675,91
	Economic activities:	79825,88	31690,77	21675,91
10	Interests, differences in currency exchange rates	7541,69	2994,04	2047,87
11	Assets turn over	-	-	-
12	Other	-	-	-
	TOTAL	3358555,42	1333342,10	911981,81



EXPENSES

EXPENSE CATEGORIES	LEI	USD 2,5189 LEI / USD	EURO 3,6827 LEI / EURO
DIRECT COSTS	2166533,59	860111,00	588300,32
PAYROLL EXPENSES	1149871,30	456497,40	312235,94
FINANCIAL SUPPORT	106519,66	42288,17	28924,34
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	910142,63	361325,43	247140,04
INDIRECT COSTS	404865,34	160731,01	109937,10
UTILITIES	14682,01	5828,74	3986,75
BANK FEES	5052,64	2005,89	1371,99
DEPRECIATION	67230,47	26690,41	18255,76
PAYROLL EXPENSES	85510,75	33947,66	23219,58
EXCHANGE LOSSES	7039,11	2794,52	1911,40
OTHER INDIRECT COSTS	225350,36	89463,80	61191,61
	2571398,93	1020842,01	698237,42
	LEI	USD 2,5189 LEI / USD	EURO 3,6827 LEI / EURO
FIXED ASSETS	259869,00	103167,7	70564,80
INTANGIBLE ASSETS	18982,00	7535,829	5154,37

TANGIBLE ASSETS		240083,00	95312,60	65192,11
FINANCIAL ASSETS		804,00	319,1869	218,3181
CURRENT ASSETS		1176673,00	467137,64	319513,67
NET RESULT OF THE 2008 FINANCIAL YEAR		787156,50	312500,09	213744,40
		LEI	USD 2,5189 LEI / USD	EURO 3,6827 LEI / EURO
VAT VARIATIONS	VAT ADVANCED FOR PROJECTS DEVELOPED IN 2008	68407,25	27157,59	18575,30
	VAT RECOVERED FOR PROJECTS DEVELOPED IN 2007	80175,57	31829,60	21770,87
	DIFFERENCE IN VAT	-11768,32	-4672,00	-3195,57

EXPENSES ACCORDING TO BALANCE

EXPENSE TYPE	TOTAL	FOR INDIRECT EXPENSES	FOR DIRECT EXPENSES
FUEL	31077,60	4661,64	26415,96
EXCHANGE PARTS	861,59	861,59	-
OTHER CONSUMABLES	43119,98	6468,00	36651,98
INVENTORY OBJECTS	81649,66	24494,90	57154,76
UNSTOCKED MATERIALS	170178,38	51053,51	119124,87

MEAL VOUCHERS	79766,96	15953,39	63813,57
EXPENSES SHELTER WORKSHOPS/SHELTER UNITS	82893,06	4144,65	78748,41
UTILITIES	29364,02	14682,01	14682,01
MAINTANANCE AND REPAIRS	10765,02	5382,51	5382,51
RENT	71799,65	28719,86	43079,79
TRANSPORTATION	3690,46	369,05	3321,41
OFFICIAL TRIPS	22039,50	2203,95	19835,55
MAIL	36649,01	18324,51	18324,51
BANK FEES	9186,61	5052,64	4133,97
SERVICES FROM THIRD PARTIES	466081,48	46608,15	419473,33
OTHER TAXES	14154,89	14154,89	-
SALARIES	977780,00	85510,75	1149871,3
SOCIAL INSURANCE	188155,24		
UNEMPLOYMENT	11233,77		
HEALTH	58213,04		
DONATIONS GIVEN	106519,66	-	106519,66
DIFFERENCES IN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES	7039,11	7039,11	-
DEPRECIATIONS	67230,47	67230,47	-
OTHER EXPENSES	1949,77	1949,77	-
	2571398,93	404865,34	2166533,59

15. FINANCERS, PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

FINANCERS

The Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB and Malaria through the Romanian Angel Appeal Organization; The Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB and Malaria through the Project Management Unit - the Romanian Ministry of Health; The European Social Fund; European Children's Help Organization, UK; The Moschino Foundation, Italy; Holt International Children's Services, USA; Kinderhilfe Rumänien e.V./o McKinsey & Company; The Ministry of Labor, Family and Equality of Chances Iasi, through the Department of Labor and Social Protection, Iasi; The Iasi City Hall – the Local Council; UNAIDS; UNICEF; The European Commission through the Phare program; UNODC.

PARTNERS

AIIESEC Mures; Aliat; ASALT – Association of Social Care Students and Graduates Iasi; The “Alexiana” Association Piatra Neamt; The “Iris” Association from Vaslui; The “Lizuca” Association Bacau; The “Red Ribbon” Association Falticeni; The “Speranta Copiilor 2000” Association Barlad; The Adsis Tineri Association Iasi; The Benone Association Tg. Mures; The Dimanche Association Mures; ARAS Bucharest; The Romanian Association against AIDS (ARAS Iasi); The Association of Bio-engineer Students; the Association of Francophone Students Iasi; The Association of Youth from Basarabia; The Public Health Authority Iasi; The Public Health Authority Mures; The “Gheorghe Asachi” Library Iasi; C.I.T.V. – City Television Network; The Center for Prevention, Evaluation and Counseling against the Use of Drugs; the Caritas Diecesan Centre Iasi; The Youth and Free Resource Centre, Chisinau – Republic of Moldova; The Infectious Diseases Clinic Mures; Administration College Iasi; “Mihail Sadoveanu” National College Pascani; “Dimitrie Leonida” Technical College; “Ioan C. Stefanescu” Technical College; Telecommunications college in Iasi; “Zi de zi” newspaper; “Buna Ziua Iasi”; newspaper; Evenimentul regional newspaper; the Red Cross Mures; Red Cross Iasi; The Department of Community Assistance Iasi; Department of Labor and Social Protection, Iasi; The Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection Bacau; The Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection Iasi; The Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection Mures; The Department of Social Assistance and Child Protection Vaslui; The UNOPA Federation; “Flacara Iasului” newspaper; COTE Romania; Rhema Christian Foundation; The Echo of Chernobyl Foundation Chisinau – Republic of Moldova; IOSIF Foundation; Pro WOMEN; The Bethany Foundation for Social Services; Star of Hope Romania; Youth for Youth; “C.A. Rosetti” School Group Constanta; “Anghel Saligny” School Group Iasi; “Constantin Brancusi” School Group; “Radu Cernatescu” School Group; Agricultural School Group Holboca; Telecommunications college Constanta; Economy School Group Iasi; BEST Iasi; “Nicotine” School Group Iasi; “Dumitru Mangeron” School Group Iasi; iasi.comunicat.ro; The County Police Department Iasi; The County Police Department Vaslui; The School District Authority Constanta; The School District Authority Mures; “Prof.Dr. Matei Bals” National Institute for Infectious Diseases; Integration; The Institute for Research and Crime Prevention Bucharest; The Prefect's Institution from the Iasi, Constanta, Mures and Vaslui counties; “Jurnalul de Est” Newspaper; “G. Calinescu” High-school Constanta; “Vasile Alecsandri” High-school Iasi; Sports High-school Iasi; “Decebal” Theoretical High-school Constanta; “Lucian Blaga” Theoretical High-school Constanta; “Dimitrie Cantemir” Theoretical High-school Iasi; “Lascar Rosetti” Theoretical High-school, Raducaneni, Iasi; “Moldova” High-school Tg. Frumos, Iasi; The League of Electrotechnical Students; The Order of Nurses and Midwives – the Iasi Branch; Save the Children Mures; Pro Karma Organization; Save the Children Iasi; “Stefan cel Mare” Orthodox Parish in Iasi; Ice Mania Skating Ring; The Aiud Penitentiary; The Bacau Penitentiary; The Bistrita Penitentiary; The Botosani Penitentiary, The Braila Penitentiary; The Constanta Penitentiary; The Dej Hospital Penitentiary; The Galati Penitentiary; The Iasi Penitentiary; The Miercurea Ciuc Penitentiary; The Targu-Mures Penitentiary; The Targu-Ocna Reeducation Centre; The Targu-Ocna Hospital Penitentiary; The Penitentiary for Under age and young people from Tichilesti, Tulcea, Vaslui and the penitentiary for adults within the National School for Training Penitentiary Agents from Targu-Ocna; The Iasi City Hall; The Tg.



Mures City Hall; Radio HIT; Radio Nord Est; Radio Tg Mures; Radio VoxT; RHRN; SC Vertigo Center Iasi; The Probation Service with the Iasi Court; The Society of Students in Medicine; The Society of Dental Students; The Infectious Diseases Hospital Constanta; The Socola Psychiatric Hospital Iasi; The Infectious Diseases Hospital Iasi; The Regional Radio Station, Iasi; The Regional Radio Station Constanta; TVR Iasi; The "Carmen Sylva" School Iasi; The "George Calinescu" School Iasi; The "Gheorghe I. Bratianu" School Iasi; The "Ion Ghica" School Iasi; The "Ionel Teodoreanu" School Iasi; The "Titu Maiorescu" School Iasi; The "Mihai Codreanu" School Iasi; The "Petru Poni" School Iasi; The "Titu Maiorescu" School Iasi; The "Alexandru cel Bun" School Iasi; The "Stefan Barsanescu" School Iasi; The "Vasile Conta" School Iasi; The Arts and Crafts School from Stornesti, the Sinesti commune Iasi; The Arts and Crafts School from Tutora; no. 22 Elementary School Constanta; TELE 'M Iasi; The "Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi; Petre Andrei Univeristy Iasi; "24 Ore mureșene" newspaper.

SPONSORS

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16. THE TEAM

At the end of 2008, the team of the Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation was made up by:

- The Board of Trustees (honorific functions) – 3 members;
- Employees – 57 persons (29 – full time and 28 – part time);
- Active volunteers – 66 persons.

We mention here the fact that since 2004, the foundation undergoes an annual financial audit. All employees of the foundation have university degrees and have attended multiple trainings in the field.

The Alaturi de Voi (Close to You) Romania Foundation is a member of:

- AIDS Action Europe
- FNOPC
- FOND
- International AIDS Society
- International Women's Health Coalition;
- People living with HIV/AIDS

- The “Impreuna” Arts Network
- Interinstitutional Network against Drugs, Iasi
- Romanian Harm Reduction Network

17. CONTACT INFORMATION

The Iasi National Headquarters	<p>The juridical address - Iasi, no. 10, Vovideniei Street, code 700079; Mail address – Iasi, bd. nr. 12 Chimiei, cod 700393 Phone/fax: 0232-275568; Mobile: 0745/609209; E-mail: office@alaturidevoi.ro Contact persons: Angela Achitei, Executive President Manuela Iftimoaei, Programs Director Alina Paduret, National Center Coordinator Veronica Vilcu, Director of the Department of Social Economy</p>
The Constanta site	<p>Constanta, no. 16 Ion Tautu Street code 900389 Phone/fax: 0241-670350; Mobile: 0757/110251; E-mail: advct@alaturidevoi.ro Contact person: Mirela Ivan, Center Coordinator</p>
The Mures site	<p>Tg. Mures, no. 4, Spitalului Vechi Street code 540089 Phone/fax: 0265/254987; Mobile: 0757/110253; E-mail: advms@alaturidevoi.ro Contact person: Ciulea Carmen, Center Coordinator</p>
Website:	<p>www.alaturidevoi.ro; www.hivsidea.ro; www.pentrusanatale.eu; www.clubultinerilor.eu www.1decembrie.eu; www.utildeco.ro; www.fundaumana.ro; www.unitatipotejate.ro; www.jobdirect.ro</p>





www.alaturidevoi.ro

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