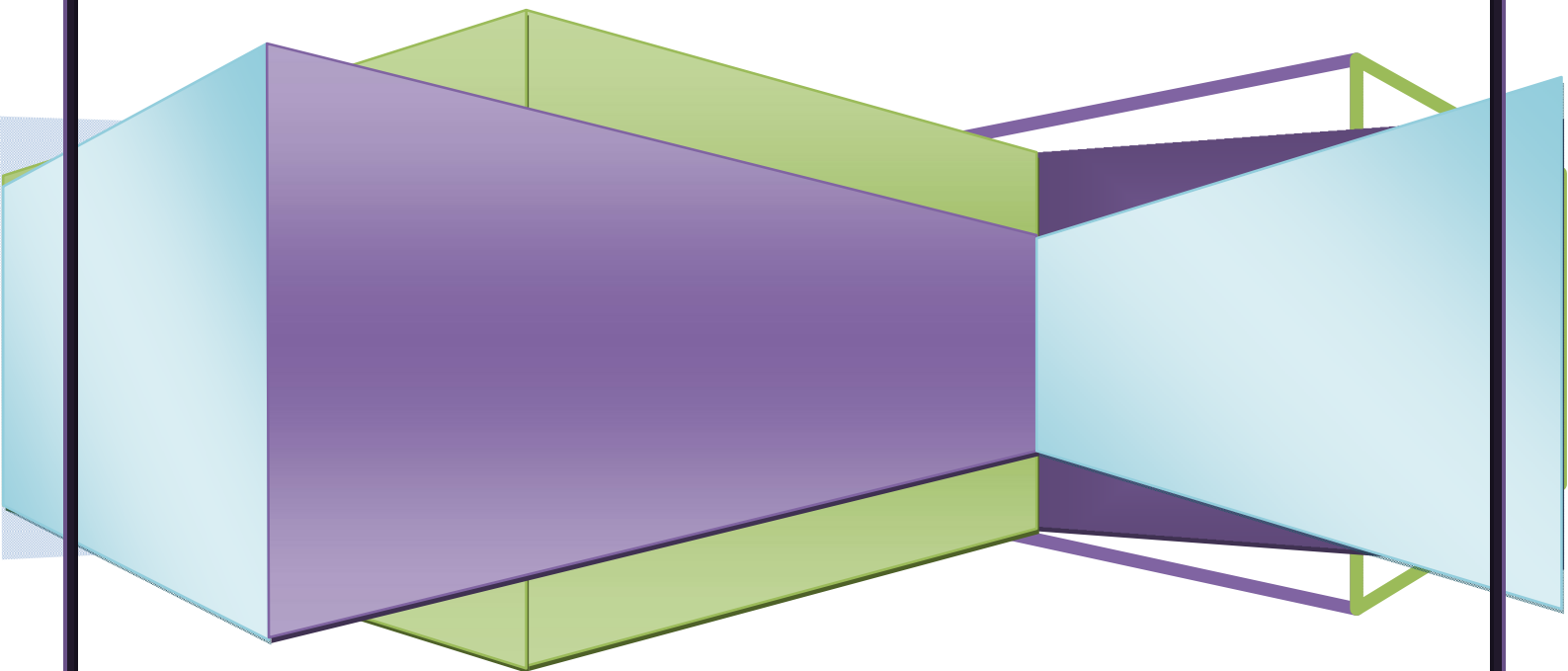


# **REGINA PACIS FOUNDATION**

## **REPORT**

**on the activity for the year of 2009**



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## **Social-economic state of the country**

The social-economic condition of the Republic of Moldova is extremely difficult and it shows a tendency towards worsening. In accordance with some official data, it might become even more complicated as the number of active members of population in the Republic of Moldova got reduced in the course of the year of 2009 by about 41,000 employees in comparison with the same period of the previous year. Unemployment averaged 8% across the country. This situation can't help affecting negatively the social sphere, especially the financial viability and stability of the budget of social insurance.

The growing number of impoverished families, the diminution of payment capacity and the reduction of revenues, the increase of the number of children left without parental care because parents continue to seek new places of work abroad represent only some of the problems our society has been facing so far.

It should be mentioned that the existing situation has been created not only as a consequence of the world economic crisis which affected our republic as well, but also as a result of an inadequate policy which was erroneously carried out by the government in the real conditions of the economic development of the country. As a result, there has been noticed a permanent growth of the number of pensioners with very low retired pay which cannot meet even the elementary requirements of the present day needs of the beneficiaries. At the same time, some pensioners get very high pensions. This fact comes in contradiction with the basic principle of the system of granting pensions according to which the retired pay should be adequately insured by the state. As a consequence, population doesn't trust this system any more and this fact finally leads to a decrease of revenues in the system because of the lack of its attractiveness.

The system of social assistance cannot actually reach its goals although numerous types of payments aiming at supporting the needy layers of society are being made. The allocated money does not reach the poorest citizens of the country and they cannot independently overcome the crisis. The reason for that is that there exists a large number of poor people. Besides, the principle of distributing the sources that form the basis of the system of social assistance has proved to be erroneous and too complicated.

In the system of health care we have been further on facing the issue of a precarious financing of sanitary-medical institutions. A considerable number of citizens do not have access to medical services and thus the incidence of socially conditioned maladies such as tuberculosis, drug addiction, the flu, and others has increased. In accordance with preliminary information offered by the Ministry of Health Care, the morbidity index from some infectious diseases is characterized in 2009 by an increase of morbidity from acute intestinal diseases (by 9.3%) and acute respiratory diseases with multiple localizations (by 26.0%). The number of people who contracted the flu increased by 3.6 times. In the course of the period under analysis, fewer cases of viral hepatitis, bacterial dysentery and, especially, epidemic parotiditis were registered.

The children of today are the future of tomorrow. This is a well known phrase which has been constantly repeated, but sometimes people do not get its real meaning. People have always wished they could have a better life, a more prosperous and quiet future with blue skies and secured peace insured from all points of view. Who else would be able to ensure this besides our children? This is the main reason we should have children and take good care of them.

We know very well how profound the demographic crisis facing the Republic of Moldova is. The care we provide children with today will be rewarded tomorrow in various ways, including the mere fact that we are laying the foundation of a well-developed and progressive society. And we have become aware of the fact that the destiny of every single child counts no matter where he/she lives: be it in urban or countryside environment. That is why, child protection issue should become a priority of people that implement social policies of a large spectrum. The child's situation should become part of everyday agenda both of central and local administrative authorities. Undoubtedly, people with disabilities also deserve special attention on the part of both the state and the society.

**The Mission of the Foundation** consists of contributing to solving the complex problems facing the society through offering moral and financial aid, social assistance and the opportunity to integrate in society to all those in need, especially lonely children, needy men and women, women – victims of the phenomenon of trafficking of human beings, poor women and emigrated Moldovan citizens.

**The Main Goals of the Foundation** are as follows:

- redeeming, reception and reintegration of victims of the phenomenon of trafficking of human beings, as well as informatory work aiming at increasing public awareness about the risks of involvement in illegal forms of emigration;
- offering assistance to poor and needy people of any category of age through distribution of humanitarian aid, food and other help necessary for the improvement of their condition;
- offering help to those minors who live in difficult conditions by placing them either in family homes, or by ensuring their reintegration in families of their descent and by placing them in territorial educational institutions, thus providing necessary conditions for receiving school education and further development of their personality;
- offering help to families, especially the ones who live in conditions of severe poverty;
- supporting and helping to develop pastoral activities and those of catechism, thus providing education by Christian principles;
- supporting the accomplishment of charitable acts;
- offering missionary services for the parishioners of the Bishopric of the Roman-Catholic Church of Moldova, as well as other persons who solicit help;
- offering legal assistance and supplying legislative information to everyone who needs help;

- implementation in partnership with various bodies, organisms and authorities of European Union and European Council of various programmes that comply with the mission and goals of the Foundation.

### **Data on the history of the Foundation**

The history of the Foundation Regina Pacis, begins with March 7, 1997, when a lot of dispersed people who had earlier embarked in very large numbers sea going vessels, second hand boats, and old military craft started to disembark on the coast of Puglie, in Salento (Italy). They were fleeing from Albany. They were hungry, tired, desperate and they found themselves on that portion of the coast, beside the Otranto canal. Fugeau din Albania.

On that night, under the impression of the great distress of this community of poor people, the Hosting Center Regina Pacis was created. It was created without any previous training of the staff, with no preliminary studies or inquiries, with very little funds – but with a great deal of love and care towards people. On that unforgettable day, the Center hosted over one thousand Albanian immigrants – and that was only the beginning of a flow that lasted and grew for days in a row. In that situation, the need emerged to create other three Centers in neighboring communities, and another one in the city of Lecce.

During this period of time, from the creation until nowadays, many changes have intervened in the organizational structure and the geographic location of our projects and activities. Regina Pacis Foundation's staff members have always been in a search, and often found answers to the most stringent problems facing our society, always responding to them with precise initiatives and projects. The main goal of these projects was to help unprivileged persons, practicing a policy of non-differentiation and non-discrimination.

The Foundation Regina Pacis began its activity in the Republic of Moldova in August 2000, together with the dramatic flow of girls from Eastern Europe trafficked with the goal of their sexual exploitation. It was necessary to apply new forms of eradication of the flow of trafficked women, for example, by launching campaigns aiming at prevention of this scourge in countries of origin, by establishing relationships of cooperation with state organs and through entering into dialogues with families these victims came from.

Nowadays, the Foundation Regina Pacis is an organization led by a team of well-educated young specialists who continue to implement its projects and initiatives while displaying the same spirit of initiative and faith proved by the founders of the organization that dates back as far as March 7, 1997.

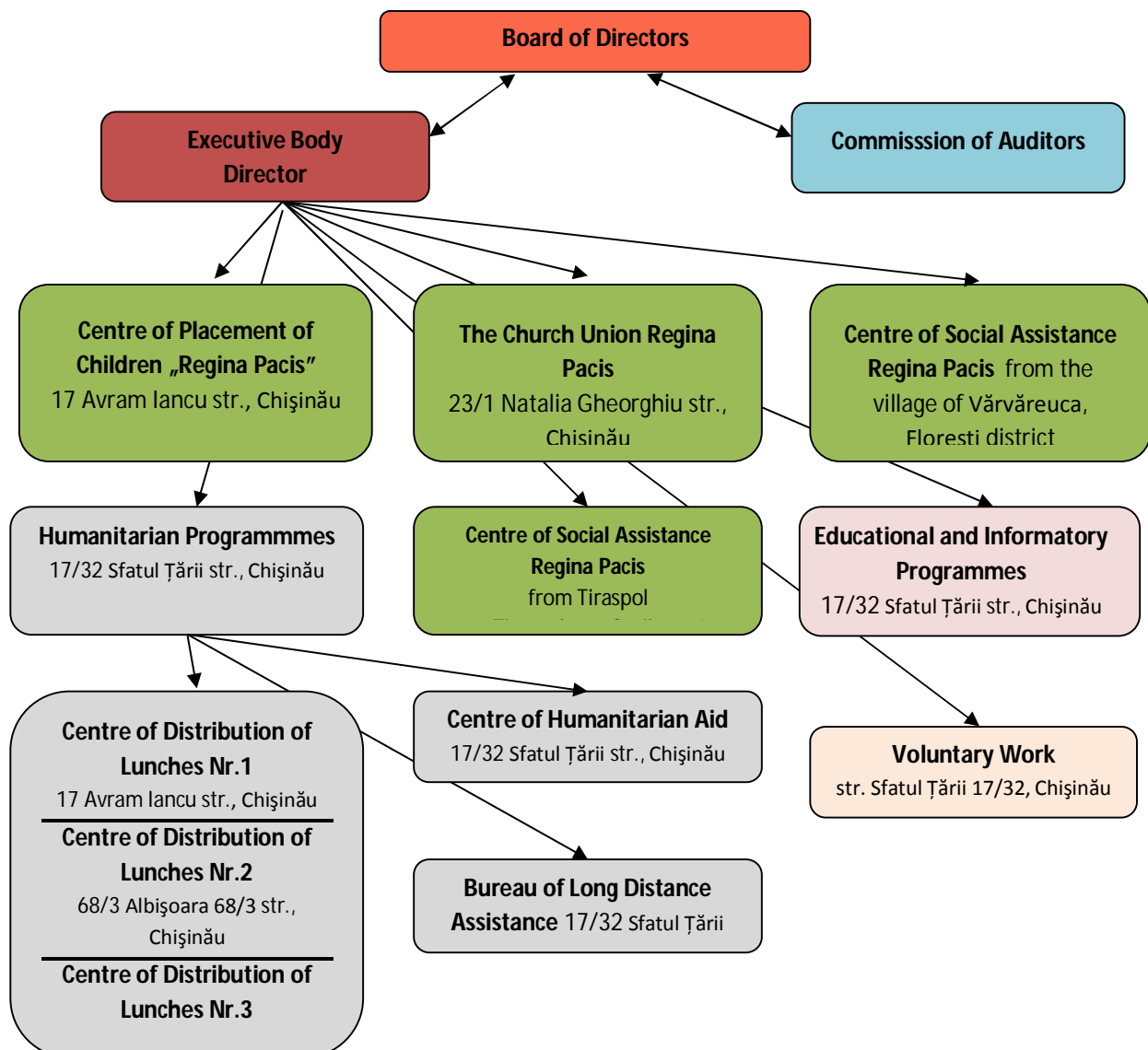
Today, the Foundation Regina Pacis has been proudly developing its activity through its structures in practically all regions of the Republic of Moldova, including the region on the left bank of the river Nistru.

The year of 2009 was of major importance for the Foundation owing to the obtained results and thanks to the qualitative improvement of the social and humanitarian services offered by the Foundation team members. During this year, the Regina Pacis Foundation from the Republic of Moldova, started for the first time in its history to implement projects that are financially supported by the European Commission and the United Nations Development Programme. In 2009, the Foundation became social partner of the Diplomatic Representative of the Government of Italy in the Republic of Moldova.

All these achievements have made us stronger. They have also strengthened the faith and initiative of the Foundation staff members who have been daily working to benefit the society and the condition of the people in need.

### The Structure of the Regina Pacis Foundation

The projects and activities implemented within the Regina Pacis Foundation are concentrated in four subdivisions and three programmes.



## THE CENTRE OF PLACEMENT OF CHILDREN „REGINA PACIS”

The Centre of Placement of Children „Regina Pacis” from Chişinău municipality is a subdivision of the Foundation „Regina Pacis”, which has a separate juridical statute. Its main functions consist of providing and ensuring access to children for a definite period of time with the subsequent accomodation, care, rehabilitation, education, medical supervision and preparation for reintegration or integration in the family and society.

### Objectives of the Centre:

- provision of protection and care for children temporarily or definitively separated from their parents;
- provision of supervision of medical condition of children; offering medical assistance, redeeming, care and permanent supervision of children;
- guaranteeing the guard and security of children;
- ensuring protection and assistance to children with a view to teaching them how to exercise their human rights;
- ensuring children’s access to information, culture and formal and non-formal education with a view to further acquisition of knowledge and development of skills necessary for social integration;
- facilitating socialization and (re)integration of children in their biologic families, expanded or adoptive and in community;
- monitoring the pro- and postintegratory situation of children and families in which they are (re)integrated.

**Beneficiaries of the Centre** are children with the age of 12-16 that are temporarily or



definitely separated from their parents which have been placed in accordance with the existing law provisions in such a Centre. All children that are accomodated in this Centre are provided regardless their sex, age, ethnicity, mother tongue unlimited access to the institution resources. They are also guaranted a real protection in their relations with other institutions, groups of people or physical persons. When various activities of

hosting, care, education, emotional support, counselling, as well as development of life skills children’s needs and vital interests constitute a priority depending on which decisions are taken and relationships are established.

### Activities developed at the Centre

Within the framework of formative, cultural and entertainment work aiming at organization of children’s leisure time through their involvement in socially useful, sports and cultural activities, we have organized:

- the dancing and music club;



- workshop for wood processing and origami;
- Italian language classes;
- Day care summer camp;
- excursions and picnicking;
- sports competitions: track and field athletics, football, volleyball, basketball, etc.

For the first time, children – residents of the Centre participated as animators (after having been trained at special preparatory courses) at the summer camps organized both at the Centre and in the village of Varvareuca, Florești district. At the summer camp, children were actively involved in various activities and games such as: sports competitions, various workshops, sports and modern dances, picnics, excursions, etc.



In the course of the year 2009, children participated actively in various sports competitions organized by the Republican Children's Centre of Culture, Federation of Basketball from the Republic of Moldova, Caritas Moldova etc., as well as in socio-cultural activities at which they were awarded Diplomas of Honours and various prizes.

Within the framework of workshops of wood processing and origami, children carried out various pieces of work (paintings sculpted in wood, greeting cards, wood crosses painted with gouache, bracelets, etc.). These were presented at various exhibitions where they were highly appreciated by visitors.

All these activities which have been organized in a very pleasant, relaxing but stimulating atmosphere have contributed to the development and formation of some specific characteristics of children. Children will need all these acquired skills during their lifetime in order to better integrate in the society.

These are as follows:

- life skills;
- communication and active listening abilities;
- adequate self-esteem;
- positive self-image;
- development and establishment of interpersonal relationships.

Children's results have been highly appreciated by the Foundation leaders. Once in a month, children with good results were recognized and awarded various prizes.

#### **The obtained results:**

- establishment of juridical statute of children place at the Centre - 2 children;
- reintegration in their biologic families and/or society - 2 children;
- getting employed – 2 children;
- undertaking studies at College – 1 child;



- undertaking studies at Vocational schools – 3 children;
- enrollment in Vocational schools - 3 children;
- undertaking studies at preuniversity educational institutions - 7 children;
- inclusion of children in the lists of persons who should benefit from free floor space – 1 child;
- concluding identity cards – 3 children;
- improvement of health condition (in comparison with previous years when there persisted diseases of the respiratory system, tuberculosis and other diseases);
- considerable progress at secondary school/vocational school/college;
- diminution of aggressiveness and self-aggressive tendencies;
- establishment of new professional relationships with competent guardianship, district, education and instruction authorities, and centres of social assistance.

In the CPC “Regina Pacis” all activities have been thought out and planned depending on children’s needs with a view to their harmonious development. This is a place where a special emphasis is placed on positive experience; it is a place where children feel free, cared for and supported.

Only through perseverance, communication, effective teamwork and abnegation of all members of the staff in their day-to-day activity we can bring about a smile on children’s faces, and hope in the souls of those parents who found themselves in difficult situation.

#### Statistical data for the year 2009

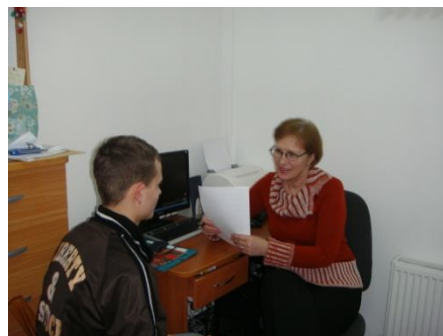
n.	The flow of beneficiaries of the Centre	Total children
1	nr. of children placed at the Centre at the beginning of the year	16
2	nr. of children placed at the Centre in the course of the year	4
3	nr. of children who left the Centre in the course of the year	6
4	nr. of children at the Centre at the end of the year	14
5	<b>Out of which:</b>	4
	Reintegrated in their biologic families/society	
	Transferred to other institutions	2
6	<b>According to the statute:</b>	6
	Orphans	
	children whose parents have been declined parental rights	4
	children placed at the Centre in accordance with temporary parents’ petitions	6
7	<b>Children whose parents are to be declined parental rights</b>	4
8	<b>Establishment of the juridical statute of children placed in the institution</b>	2
	<b>Children who are placed in the Centre attend:</b>	
	Preuniversity educational institutions	7
	Vocational schools	5
	Colleges	1
	Specialized schools	1

The activity of the Psychological Service within the framework of the Centre in the reference period was centred on the following domains: psychoprofilaxy, establishment of psychodiagnosis, individual and group psychocounselling, redeeming and professional orientation.

20 children benefitted from Psychological Service within the framework of the CPC Regina Pacis from Chişinău municipality:

- informatory activities aiming at developing communication skills and those of establishment of relationships – 16 children;
- informatory activities and professional counselling materialized in the following activities:
- conducting tests for children with the view of establishing their professional interests – 3 children;
- activities aiming at finding and supplying information as regards the choice of future profession – 3 children;
- activities aiming at finding and supplying information about vocational schools – 3 children;
- development of various abilities and self-esteem with a view of taking their own decisions as regards the choice of their future profession – 3 copii;
- an evaluation of the psychological condition of children – 5 children;
- individual psychological counselling – 45 sessions;
- activities aiming at group psychological counselling – 16 sessions;
- 7 case studies solicited by the managers of the Centre of Placement of Children, leaders of the Foundation Regina Pacis and competent institutions have been investigated.

Individual and group psychological counselling activities play a special role in the process of offering psychological assistance within the Centre of Placement of Children. Children need to undertake psychological counselling sessions first of all because they have to learn how to accept the negative experience they have passed through; besides, they need to overcome stressful and shocking situations, etc. Gradually, the psychological counselling becomes oriented towards building and developing self-confidence.



Children learn how to take decisions, they create their own positive self-image and annihilate other consequences of the sindrom of post-traumatic stress. After having successfully removed these problems, afterwards, the psychological counselling becomes centred upon the reestablishment of relationships with children and adults, and reintegration in community and society. As a result of the psychological counselling offered to children so far, they have been able to analyse the situation independently and then decide where to go to study after the completion of the gymnasium stage.

## CENACLE REGINA PACIS

Cenacle Regina Pacis, is one of the subdivisions of the Regina Pacis Foundation and it represents one of its latest achievements. It was founded in 2008 in the central area of Chisinau.



Cenacle Regina Pacis was inaugurated on September 5, 2008 in the presence of His Grace Monsignor Cosmo Francesco Ruppi, Metropolitan Bishop of Lecce, and of His Highness Monsignor Anton Coşa, Bishop of Chişinău. It was Blessed by the Saint Pope

Joseph Ratzinger XVI, in the message that was sent on August 28, 2008. The inauguration was attended by an important number of officials and friends of the Foundation, from the Republic of Moldova and other European countries.

Cenacle Regina Pacis represents a call adressed to the society, that has been increasingly affected by various social vices. As a matter of fact, Cenacle Regina Pacis offers a space for meetings, meditation and dialogues between cultures and individuals, - all of these being oriented towards a unique goal – to grow and prosper together.

During the year 2009, every day starting at 07.00, in the Chapel of Cenacle, a Mass is hold in Italian by Father Cesare Lodeserto. In the same Chapel, every Saturday at 18.00, Father Cesare celebrates the Saint Liturgy, which is attended by the entire Italian community of Chişinău.

We would also like to mention that in the course of the year 2009 2 events of christening and 2 funerals were celebrated.

During the year 2009 Cenacle Regina Pacis accomodated several groups of volunteers for short or longer periods. Starting on Jauary 1, 2009 and for a period of 8 months, Cenacle had been a host for a group of 6 volunteers from the movement Rennovamento nello Spirito Santo of Italy. They worked on a voluntary basis, for the beneficiaries of the Regina Pacis Foundation, but also for the benefit of children from poor families. Thus, they participated at origami and painting courses, organized by the RnS volunteers in Cenacle and Roman Catholic Bishopric of Chişinău headquarters.

In July – August Cenacle hosted several groups of volunteer activity leaders from Italy. They came to Moldova for short periods of time, in order to organize and hold summer camps in the Centre of Placement of Children „Regina Pacis”, situated at 17 Avram Iancu str., Chişinău.



On October 31 was celebrated one year of existence of Cenacle Regina Pacis. On this occasion, a holy liturgy was celebrated by the entire clergy of the Republic of Moldova's Roman Catholic Church. The divine service was officiated by the Bishop of Chişinău, Monsignor Anton Coşa.

## DIRECTIONS FOR INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

### Informative Bulletin „Regina Pacis”

#### Context:

In 2009 was continued the elaboration and distribution of the Informative Bulletin “Regina Pacis”, containing information of stringent topical interest regarding social problems facing the Republic of Moldova, last-minute events from local and national press, the most important activities and the best practices of the Regina Pacis Foundation and of its divisions.



#### Goal:

Elaboration (in electronic form), periodic publication and distribution of the Informative Bulletin „Regina Pacis”, through the existing e-mail network.

With a circulation of several hundreds, the Informative Bulletin „Regina Pacis” was distributed to NGO’s and government bodies from Chişinău, but also from the entire republic and beyond it. The publication was available in electronic format, in Romanian and English. The employees of the Regina Pacis Foundation and of the Centre of Placement of Children „Regina Pacis” have contributed to the elaboration of material published in the Bulletin. Also, we acknowledge the contribution to the realization of this goal of the children residing in the CPC “Regina Pacis”, who wrote articles about their living conditions prior to their placement in the Center.

The Informative Bulletin also proposed to the readers a detailed analysis, regarding various types of law infringement, “human-being trafficking”, juvenile delinquency, demographic problems in our country, etc.

The Informative Bulletin was published in Romanian and English. It has been distributed for free to the beneficiaries of the project, but also to other categories: teenagers, young people, young families, etc. from different rural localities. Also, a Network of potential financial donors from Europe and the USA has been created, all the numbers of the Bulletin have been sent to these recipients. The goal of this distribution is to inform the potential donors about the results of our activities, and about the problems that we are currently facing, in the hope of attracting new funds in the future.

#### Results:

There have been elaborated, published and distributed 15 issues, by using the created e-mail network, of the Informative Bulletin „Regina Pacis”, each issue containing 12 pages.

**Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis”, village of Vărvăreuca, district of Florești  
“Casa degli Amici di Mario”**

The Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis”, from the village of Vărvăreuca, district of Florești, hereafter „CSAV”, was created in February of 2008 by a decision of the Council of Administration of the Regina Pacis Foundation, PV03/08 of February 11, 2008.

The objectives that are at the origin of the creation of CSAV are the following:

- to offer an immediate response to socially vulnerable persons from rural areas, by distributing hot lunches to underprivileged persons on a daily basis, and by distributing humanitarian aid;
- to organize meditation hours and other extra-curricular activities for children from rural areas;
- to organize summer camps for children and teenagers with the participation of young volunteers and activity leaders from Italy.



During the year 2009, according to the goals and the objectives of CSAV, a series of social, humanitarian and educational activities were organized.

**Centre of Distribution of Lunches no. 3 (CDL3)**

In our Centre the CDL functioned from Monday to Friday, preparing hot lunches for the elderly and underprivileged persons from the villages of Vărvăreuca and Stîrceni



(district of Florești).

Lunches were distributed to persons, who, due to various reasons, are in great need to benefit from this aid. The lists of these persons are preventively approved of once in every two months by the Director of the Foundation, in accordance with the proposal of the Mayor of Vărvăreuca.

Month	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	Total 2009
No. of working days	18	20	22	21	20	22	23	19	22	22	21	22	252
No. of daily prepared lunches	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	-

No. of persons aided, per month	45 0	50 0	55 0	52 5	50 0	55 0	57 5	47 5	55 0	55 0	52 5	55 0	<b>6 300</b>
<b>Beneficiary categories for each month</b>													
Retired	16	16	16	13	13	13	12	12	14	14	15	15	<b>70</b>
Handicapped	7	7	7	6	6	6	9	9	6	6	6	6	<b>34</b>
Underprivileged persons	2	2	2	6	6	6	4	4	5	5	4	4	<b>21</b>

During the year 2009, the CDL3 distributed 6,300 lunches. About 125 underprivileged persons have benefitted from lunches, some of them got lunches during the entire period, due to the fact that their situation is dramatically difficult, and this fact made their exclusion from the lists and their replacement with other persons impossible.

It is very important to mention that all persons that have benefitted from these aids, have highly appreciated this project and have been repeatedly asking to get re-included in the lists that foresees distribution of lunches for free at CDL3, when this would be possible. At the end of each period of distribution of free lunches, the Village Hall of Vărvăruca sent us thank-you letters, thus, highly appreciating the aid offered to the poor people from the village.

#### **Meditation hours and other extra-curricular activities for children from rural areas**



In the period February 1, 2009 – June 15, 2009, with the agreement of the Regina Pacis Foundation managers, the CSV hosted two young volunteer workers from Bologna (Italy). During these months, the two volunteers (Grandi Claudia and Giusto Carlo) organized, on a daily basis, several afterclass activities for the children from the village. These activities were mainly based on group games, drawing, painting, origami, danse and Italian culture.

During this period, about 60 school-age children from the village of Vărvăruca participated in activities organized by these two volunteers (in two groups of 30 children each) The activity of these volunteers was highly appreciated by the entire community of Vărvăruca, and by the Local Public Authorities and the director of the M. Eminescu School of Vărvăruca.

### Summer Camp 2009 Vărvăreuca

In the period from 10th to 24th of August 2009 in the village of Vărvăreuca, like in previous years, a summer camp was organized. This event happened due to cooperation with a group of 24 activity leaders from the city of Verona (Italy), conducted by Father Don Alberto. During this camp various recreative and fun activities for children of Vărvăreuca were organized and conducted.



Every day, about 150 children participated in the summer camp activities. As in previous years, the summer camp programme included team games, contests, free air plays, origami instructive activities, painting, drawing, dancing, etc. The Village Hall leaders and the teachers of the M. Eminescu School of Vărvăreuca highly appreciated the activities organized by the volunteers. The children enjoyed the summer camp and asked for the return of the volunteers in the future.

The Italian volunteers organized and held the activities in collaboration with two young volunteers from the Centre of Placement of Children „Regina Pacis” from Chișinău.

During their stay in Moldova, this group of young people were accommodated by the Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” from the village of Vărvăreuca.

### Conclusions:

During the reported period, CSAV's employees and volunteers worked in a highly competent and industrious manner, showing a great deal of faithfulness towards the assumed obligations. Each person that had solicited the CSAV, benefitted from a rapid response and exact aid in the matter. The beneficiaries of CSAV were treated with dignity and kindness. It is important to mention that some of the persons working here are also involved in many volunteer activities, this being highly appreciated by the managers of the Regina Pacis Foundation.



## **HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMMES**

### **Centres of Distribution of Hot Lunches**

**Project's goals:** transportation and daily distribution of hot lunches to underprivileged persons (lonely elderly persons, homeless, handicapped, abandoned children, etc.), who do not dispose of financial sources that are necessary for them in order to meet the requirements in food procurement. The goal of the project is to offer these underprivileged persons at least one hot meal per day.

Through the functioning of Centres of Distribution of Hot Lunches, the Regina Pacis Foundation has tried to offer solutions for various categories of persons in need, such as: homeless, lonely the elderly, abandoned children, handicapped, etc.

This project is carried out in Chişinău, where two Centres of Distribution of Hot Lunches are situated at:

1. 17 Avram Iancu str. (CDL - 1)
2. 68/3 Albişoara str. (CDL -2)

#### **Organization of the activity**

As in previous years, the lunches are prepared at the kitchen of the House of Providence Foundation, - partner organization, that signed a collaboration agreement with our Foundation. According to this agreement, the House of Providence Foundation prepares daily lunches, the cost of which is covered by the Regina Pacis Foundation.

The kitchen equipment that serves for food preparation was donated by the Regina Pacis Foundation and corresponds to all sanitary and epidemiological standards. The kitchen equipment is modern and therefore all necessary conditions for qualitative food preparation are met.

#### **Food transportation**

For the transportation of prepared meals, the Regina Pacis Foundation disposes of a FIAT Doblo truck, specially equipped for transporting food items, and corresponding to all sanitary and epidemiological standards (this fact is proved by the sanitary certificate). In order to transport hot meals in a qualitative way, the truck is equipped with isothermic containers.

#### **Distribution of meals**

The distribution of meals is performed by the collaborators of the Regina Pacis Foundation, and takes place every day, from Monday to Friday, starting with 12.30, at both CDL locations situated at 17 Avram Iancu str., and 68/3 Albişoara str.

In the process of lunch distribution are involved a total of six persons, who are either Foundation employees, or volunteers.

#### **Enrollment in the lists of beneficiaries**

Enrollment in the lists of one of the Centres of Distribution of Hot Lunches is subject to completing and submitting an application form. In order to become a beneficiary of

this programme, the petitioner must enclose the following documents to the application form:

1. birth certificate copy;
2. certificate, attesting that the petitioner belongs to the unprivileged social categories;
3. certificate evaluating living conditions;
4. certificate attesting working incapacity;
5. depending on each situation, other documents may be required.

Beneficiaries of Centres of Distribution of Lunches no. 1 and no. 2 are elderly persons, homeless persons, or handicapped. During the year 2009, among the beneficiaries of hot meals there were unprivileged persons, members of different associations, namely: Handicapped Persons' Association of Riscani District, Primary Association of Veterans of the Riscani District No. 9, Association of Veterans of the Audiovisual Radio-Screen, Officers' Association, Municipal Direction for Children's Rights Protection and the Department of Social Assistance from Centre District.

The evaluation of activity of CDL no. 1 and no. 2 has been periodically performed by the application of structured and non-structured interviews, observation methods, documentary analysis, conducted discussions in daily evaluation groups with beneficiaries. In this way it has been concluded that the project is very welcome and extremely necessary for helping unprivileged persons and that the continuity of the project is very important for these categories of unprivileged persons living in the Republic of Moldova.

This project has been financially supported by private donations offered by physical persons of high moral standards and good will.

During the reported period a total number of 30,311 lunches to 197 beneficiaries were distributed.

**Since the moment of the launching of the project till December 31, 2009** have been distributed about 504 522 hot lunches for 781 beneficiaries were distributed.

It must be mentioned that during the year 2009, due to the lack of necessary funds for the project, it was decided to reduce the number of prepared meals and, therefore, of beneficiaries.

For the year 2010, supplementary efforts for fund collection will be made in order to allow more unprivileged persons to benefit from a daily hot meal. We can also mention that for the large majority of this project's beneficiaries, the meal received in the LDO is their only meal.

## LONG-DISTANCE ASSISTANCE FOR UNPRIVILEGED CHILDREN

According to some data, more than 14 thousand children in the Republic of Moldova are growing up in residential institutions.



Being placed in these institutions, these children are not only deprived of parental care, - they also more often live in inadequate conditions. Frequently, they suffer from insufficient or imbalanced nutrition, unhealthy sanitary and hygienic conditions or rigid daily life programs. In the name of the economic survival of the family, parents may take extreme decisions, that may be harmful for the child's well-being. The main causes of child abandoning are: emigration of one or both parents, alcohol abuse of parents, family violence, and other serious problems inside the family cell. Abandoned children do not have many chances to succeed in life, as despite the many promises, little has been

actually done by the authorities. Usually, abandoned children end up in an orphanage or in host families.

In order to effectively respond to requirements, the Regina Pacis Foundation launched, in March 2003, the project "Long-Distance Assistance", that is aimed at offering support to children in need. This project has been implemented with the support of the Fondazione Regina Pacis of Italy and the Association "Ave Maria Nostra Speranza" from Mantova, Italy. It mainly consists of consolidating resources and capacities in order to ensure the children's right to grow up in a family environment.

### **Project objectives:**

- To offer support to the unprivileged family that is part of a risk category, aiming at maintaining and educating the child inside the family.
- To reduce the number of abandoned children.
- To arise the public opinion's interest for the situation of children in unprivileged families.

### **The beneficiaries of the project are selected according to the following criteria:**

- Children from monoparental families;
- Orphans or children left without parental care;
- Handicapped children;
- Children who are begging or homeless;
- Children using drugs or other toxic substances;
- Children from disorganized families.

The majority of children benefitting from the "Long-distance assistance" project are aged 12 to



16. Children aged 6 to 12 constitute about 10% of the total number of beneficiaries. About the same proportion is represented by young persons aged 16 to 24 who, in their vast majority, are either homeless or handicapped.

69 % of the project's beneficiaries live in the city of Chisinau or in its close proximity. This is due to the fact that in Chisinau is located the Center of Placement of Children, where we have many beneficiaries, but also thanks to the fact that it is in Chisinau that the majority of homeless children, who originate from the entire Republic of Moldova can be found.

#### Results:

During the year 2009, the beneficiaries of the "Long-distance assistance" project were

<b>Products that are distributed to beneficiaries</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>no. of beneficiaries</b>
<b>Food items</b>		
Rice	299 kg	65
Buckwheat	224 kg	65
Pastas	783 kg	65
Wheat flour	1 051 kg	65
Sugar	117 kg	65
Oil	178 l	65
Canned food	797 piec.	65
<b>Procured medication</b>	-	22
<b>Hygienic products</b>		
Toothpaste	117 piec.	65
Dishwashing detergent (liquid)	117 piec.	65
Dishwashing detergent (gel)	117 piec.	65
Shampoo	117 piec.	65
<b>School items</b>	-	65
<b>Clothing</b>	-	51
<b>Toys</b>	270 piec.	45

visited six times by Regina Pacis Foundation's collaborators. During each visit, the beneficiaries received food bags, hygienic products, school supplies and clothing.

During the reported period, children benefitting from this project, who are at school or in kindergarten, received financial support in order to cover expenses related to their education. Overall, during this period, 22 children benefitted from this aid.

From the moment of project launching until December 31, 2009, a total number of 118 children benefitted from this project.

The „Long-distance assistance" project aims at contributing at the improvement of living conditions of unprivileged persons and of children from unprivileged families, with the support of traditional financial donors of this project.

## VOLUNTARY WORK

Within the subdivisions of the Regina Pacis Foundation

*“Voluntary work is an environment in which you always encounter special people, an environment which offers a different perspective for everything and finally builds a stronger character. All these things, though real, can be included by a lot of people in the category of “to do something at will”. The truth is that voluntary work is not made up only of smiling faces and songs; in fact, it is far more difficult to do voluntary work that anyone has ever imagined.”*

Thus, in the course of the year 2009, within the framework of the Regina Pacis Foundation, beside its staff members, about 60 people acted as volunteers. Practically, all volunteers came from Italy, from the northern regions of the country. Each group was monitored by a leader, usually a church servant. These persons had been trained beforehand so that they could organize and conduct activities with children and adolescents in the region. Efforts were also made to work out a programme for the development of voluntary work.

Altogether, 5 groups of young people were involved in voluntary work activities. The young people which had been trained beforehand in voluntary work activities ran similar programmes in Italy. Some of them acted in other countries as well, including the Republic of Moldova.

In order to organize and run voluntary work activities within the subdivisions of the Regina Pacis Foundation, groups of volunteers had been created. When creating these groups, the following criteria were taken into account: whether young people participated in voluntary work activities previously, what regions of Italy they represented, etc.

### Group I Bologna

In the period 01.02.2009 – 15.06.2009, within the framework of Centre of Social Assistance Regina Pacis from the village of Vărvăreuca, two youths from the city of Bologna (Italy) organized and ran voluntary work activities.



During this period, volunteers carried out a lot of recreational activities for the children from the village. They focused their activity especially on group games, drawing, origami, dancing and Italian language classes.

The activity of these volunteers was highly appreciated both by the whole community of the village of Vărvăreuca, Mihai Eminescu secondary school administration as well as by the Local Public Administration Authorities.

### **The Group from Torino**

In the period 24.07.2009 – 14.07.2009, a group of volunteers made up of 8 young animators from the city of Torino organized activities within the framework of the Centre of Placement of Children. Children were accommodated at Cenacle Regina Pacis from Chişinău. The volunteers' activity was guided by Priest Corrado.



During this period, a summer camp was organized where daily over 60 children, including 16 children from CPC Regina Pacis participated in activities. A lot of children were from socially vulnerable families and children who live not far from the CPC Regina Pacis.

Both children who attended these camp activities, and their parents highly appreciated the activities organized and run by representatives of this group of young volunteers. The activity was centred on the organization and accomplishment of a large number of thematic activities, entertaining games, small and large group activities, instruction workshops, sports competitions, etc. Beside volunteers from Torino, 8 children – residents of the CPC Regina Pacis from Chisinau also served as animators at this camp. It was their first experience as regards voluntary work. One of them mentioned that “It was tiring, but very interesting.”

### **The Group from Mantova**

The Group of volunteers from Mantovo was made up of 8 young people; they were guided by Suora Antonia. This group was accommodated in the precincts of the Roman-Catholic Bishopric from Chişinău. Within the framework of the Bishopric for the first time a summer camp was organized by the Foundation Regina Pacis in partnership with the Roman Catholic Parish “Providența Divină” and Caritas Chişinău.



Daily, about 20-25 children participated in activities organized and run by young volunteers. At the end of each day children left the camp with enthusiasm, and in high spirits. They had been eagerly waiting for a new meeting with young volunteers and with children who participated actively at the realization of the camp programme.

### **The Group from Verona**

This group made up of 24 animators and led by the Priest Alberto carried out entertainment recreational activities at the summer camp organized for children from the village of Vărvăreuca in the period from 10.08.09 to 24.08.2009.

During the whole period of time of their stay in the Republic of Moldova, young volunteers were accommodated at the Centre of Social Assistance Regina Pacis from the village of Vărvăreuca. Daily, about 150 children from the neighbourhood participated in summer camp activities. As in previous years, the programme of the camp included team games, contests, open air theatre performances, learning origami activities, painting and drawing, dancing, etc.



The representatives of the City Hall and the teaching staff from Mihai Eminescu secondary school from Vărvăreuca highly appreciated the efforts made by the members of the group of volunteers. They also mentioned the fact that the activities organized and run by the volunteers were useful and wellcome for children from their community. The participants were very satisfied and asked the volunteers to come back soon. Participanții au rămas foarte mulțumiți și au solicitat reîntoarcerea voluntarilor cat mai curand.

### **The Group from Bologna**

The last group of volunteers who came to Moldova in order to organize and run voluntary work activities included a group of young people from the city of Bologna, Italy. This group was led by Mrs. Bottazzi Teresa and the Priest Don Angelo.

The group from Bologna carried out its voluntary work activity in the period from 16 to 26 of August 2009, within the framework of the Centre of Placement of Children located at 17 Avram Iancu str., Chișinău.

In the course of this period of time, a large number of educational-recreational activities were organized for children from the Centre of Placement of Children Regina Pacis, as well as for children from socially vulnerable families and children who live in the neighbourhood of this Centre. Daily, about 60 children participate at these activities.



parents.

As in previous groups, the results of activity carried out by the volunteers from Bologna were highly appreciated both by children and their

This year, voluntary work activities were carried out at Centres of Distribution of Hot Lunches (hereafter CDLs) where hot lunches were distributed to underprivileged persons who don't have enough money to buy themselves hot meals (lonely elderly people, homeless people, invalids, street children, etc.) Two volunteers, namely, Mr. Carlo din Sardegna from Italy (in the period from 08.04 to 09.09. 2009) and Mrs.

Rosa Brunn from Bolivia, America Latină (in the period from 10.09 to 31.12.2009) carried out voluntary work..

In the course of the year 2009 altogether about 60 volunteers participated in voluntary work: 51 – from Italy, 1 – from Latin America and 8 from the Republic of Moldova; 400 children benefitted from this activity.

*“Voluntary work is, ultimately, a mountain difficult to climb. It is a mountain which wouldn't be tackled by a lot of people, and an enthusiastic mountaineer would sceptically look at it. Sometimes you are dragged upward, other times you are the one who helps the others. You are never alone and this makes you be closer to others, more than any teambuilding activities with billiards and disco parties. The road is long and difficult and it is full of dangers but as soon as you reach the peak of the mountain, you get to know it better. Once you reach its peak, you can see more things and hardly anyone can disturb you. Once you reach the peak of the mountain, you will get to know that you you can carry out and attain anything you want. Once you reach the peak of the mountain, you realize that this is in fact what you have always wanted to do.”*

## 2009 EVENTS

- 01.20** **Start of the volunteering activity** of an Italian couple – Carlo and Claudia. They organized the activities of meditation, games, lessons on the Italian culture for children at the Social Center “Regina Pacis “ in Vărvăreuca, district of Florești. Their mission ended on July 1, 2009.
- 01.28** **Regina Pacis Foundation becomes the social partner of the Italian Embassy of Chișinău** and offers social assistance to Italian citizens in Moldova. Also, from this moment, Regina Pacis Foundation becomes the Italian Embassy’s partner regarding the offering of useful information to the sollicitants of the Visa Office of the Italian Embassy of Chișinău.
- 06.01** **The Republic of Italy’s Day is organized in Chișinău.** On this occasion, the Regina Pacis Foundation organized a charitable lunch for 130 elderly persons, beneficiaries of the Centres of Distribution of Lunch. The event was held in the L’Aragosta Restaurant, with the support of the Italian community of Moldova and of the Italian Embassy of Chișinău.
- 07.04** **After more than 20 years serving as a Bishop, Monsignor Cosmo Francesco Rупpi**, having attained the retirement age, has transmitted the leadership of the Arhidiecezei of Lecce to his successor, Monsignor Domenico D’Ambrosio. Monsignor Rупpi stood of the origin of Regina Pacis Foundation’s creation in Italy, Ukraine and Moldova. We thank him gratefully for everything he has done for Moldova!
- 09.01** **The “Never Alone” Project is launched**, financed by the European Commission and United Nation’s Development Programme. This 16-month long project’s goal was to reconstruct and re-equip the Medical Ambulatory in Ciobruți, district of Slobozia.
- 10.31** **One year from the creation of Cenacle Regina Pacis anniversary.** On this occasion, a liturgy has been organized with the participation of the clergy of the Roman Catholic Church of Moldova. The divine celebration was officiated by the Bishop of Chișinău, Monsignor Anton Coșa.
- 10.01** **Monsignor Cesare Lodeserto participated at the “Continental European Meeting on Social Service”.** The event was held in Rome, Italy.
- 10.08** **Ilie Zabica represented the Regina Pacis Foundation at the “Social Catholic Days in Europe”,** event, which was held in the city of Danzig, Poland.
- 11.01** **Start of the project “Re-equipment of the Sthomatology Cabinet”** implemented with the support of the Dental Studio Gino Villanova Sernaglia della Battaglia (TV) from Italy, - a new project in the sanitary field, that is aimed at the procurement of modern equipment for a dental cabinet in the District Hospital of Florești.
- 12.05** **Charitable Exhibition**, - this is a traditional event, organized at MoldExpo by the Embassadors accredited at Chișinău. Regina Pacis Foundation, being sollicitated by E.S. Stefano De Leo, has represented at this event the Italian Embassy of Chișinău. For this purpose, a stand was prepared, where traditional Italian products were exposed, that have been donated by the members of the Italian community in Moldova and by the Foundation’s donors from Italy. The sum of 11,000 lei was collected, which was transmitted to the Diplomats’ Wives Association, for the financing of charitable projects.
- 12.14** **Regina Pacis Foundation signs a collaboration agreement with ACLI Italy**, in the problem of imigration and workers’ protection. This agreement’s major objective is to offer informational support to Moldovan citizens, who have worked in Italy, and to Moldovan citizens willing to apply for an Italian visa. This agreement was appreciated by Moldova’s Foreign Minister, Mr. Iurie Leancă.
- 12.19.** **“Charitable dinner”,** the event was organized in Cenacle Regina Pacis headquarters, located at Natalia Gheorghiu str, no. 23/1. The event has started with the celebration of the Holy Mass in Cenacle Chapel, by Father Don Cesare (the President of the Foundation), and it was followed by a charitable dinner. The event was attended by about 110 persons, most of them being members of the Italian community of Moldova, businessmen, and also Regina Pacis Foundation’s beneficiaries. On the occasion of the upcoming winter holidays, about 40 children beneficiaries of the Foundation’s projects have received gifts in form of toys and sweets.

## **REGINA PACIS FOUNDATION'S TEAM**

### **Central Office**

**Monsignor Cesare LODESERTO** – President;  
**Ilie ZABICA** – director;  
**Carolina VIERU** – chief accountant;  
**Tatiana CARAGHENOVA** – accountant;  
**Oxana NAȘCU** – office manager;  
**Emilia MORARU** – Educational and Information Programs coordinator;  
**Daniil MOȘCO** – IT assistant;  
**Victor CROITORU** – ACLI Patronato Project assistant;  
**Olga IXARU – SCUTELNIC** – ACLI Patronato Project assistant;  
**Gheorghe ELISEI** – technical manager.

### **Center of Children's Placement „Regina Pacis”**

**Adrian BRAGA** – manager;  
**Emilia MORARU** – psychologist, superior teaching degree;  
**Sr. Leodenira Negrao FERNANDES** – Educational manager;  
**Elena SUVEICĂ** – social assistant - educator;  
**Dina SCUTARU** - social assistant - educator;  
**Liudmila BRĂDUȚAN** - social assistant - educator;  
**Daniela PLEȘCA** – pediatricist;  
**Anatolie TIRNOV** – LPL laboratory instructor;  
**Vasilisa BEJAN** – cook;  
**Victor GRIB** – project assistant;  
**Alexandru BOTNARIUC** – project assistant.

### **Church Union Regina Pacis**

**Mons. Cesare Lodeserto** – clerk;  
**Tudor BRAGA** – technical manager.

### **Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca**

**Eugenia ZABICA** – Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca manager;  
**Andrei ZABICA** – technical manager of the Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca;  
**Tatiana CIBOTARU** – cook at the Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca;  
**Tatiana VIZITIU** – project assistant, Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca;  
**Gheorghe ZABICA** – keeper, Centre of Social Assistance Center „Regina Pacis” of Vărvăreuca;

### **Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Tiraspol**

**Ecaterina PAHNUTOVA** – Project assistant of the Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Tiraspol;  
**Alexandr TIMOFEEV** – keeper, Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Tiraspol;  
**Vasilii BUȘANSCHII** – keeper, Centre of Social Assistance „Regina Pacis” of Tiraspol;

### **Long-distance Assistance Bureau**

**Tudor BRAGA** – project assistant;  
**Sr. Leodenira Negrao FERNANDES** – Educational manager;

### **Humanitarian Programmes Direction**

**Gheorghe BRĂDUȚAN** – assistant for the Centres of Distribution of Lunches and Humanitarian Aid;  
**Ana MAJOREANU** – project assistant at the Lunch Distribution Outlets;

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