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Where are you, mother?



Victoria was only 13 years when she was abandoned by her mother, the latter leaving with her partner for an unknown direction. She hasn't met her father, being the result of a random love relationship. Together with her younger brother Alexander the small children were left in the care of grandparents. They lived with their grandmother renting a flat in a private house with her partner, conditions being disastrous (lack of electricity, drinking water,

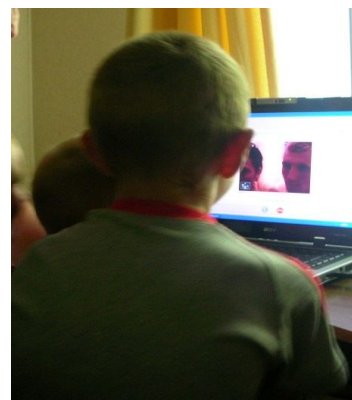
hygienic conditions were not met).

Until the age of 9-10 years, Victoria together with her family lived in their own apartment provided with all the necessary conditions of life, but they weren't lucky for a long time. After some time the family sold the apartment, but failed to buy another one, according to the girl's words they were mugged, thus starting to rent. From that moment on the troubles started, and the best method of solving the problems was alcohol.

In the "Regina Pacis" PCC Victoria was placed when she was 14 years old together with her brother Alexander. Their grandmother asked that the children be placed, because she could not provide a decent living. Also, there were gaps in the education of children, the grandmother being elderly faced diverse problems regarding their education, lack of a funding source, clothing, school supplies, etc, thus anticipating the outgoing of grandchildren to beg in the street. In the Center "Regina Pacis", Victoria has received the required medical assistance, such as social and psychological care.

The case of the brothers Alexander and Victoria was taken and monitored to date by one of the social assistants of the Placement Center, who together with the relevant Guardianship authorities of the district have perfected the documents of children.

After a long and unsuccessful search for the mother of Victoria and Alexander, who unfortunately was not found, the Guardianship authorities have decided to lapse / lack her of parental rights. During the period when the court has decided the revocation of mother's rights, another sorrow collapsed onto the children, their grandmother died. Alexander and Victoria were left alone, their only relative being Uncle Igor, who leads an unorganized life, is consuming alcohol and is not interested in the fate of his grandchildren.





At the moment, Victoria is a second year student at one of the colleges in Chisinau; she managed to be admitted into a budget group due to the high average grade obtained after the secondary school graduation, thus winning a scholarship. By her nature, Victoria is a warrior, still manages to have good results in her studies (at College), and thinks about a better and brighter future for her and her brother. But for her dream to become reality, she needs to finish her studies and to find a well-paid job, says Victoria.

Currently, however, the girl has no where to go, being a resident of the PCC "Regina Pacis", where she is given the necessary support that she was lacking in her family.

Dina Scutaru,
social assistant, PCC "Regina Pacis"

Distinguished thoughts about the children from Moldova



I am Sr. Leodenira Fernandes, a Silesian of Holy Hearts, born in Brazil but, already, a citizen of all the world because from the distant 1991 I left my native country to meet the demand of God to live with the brothers from the whole world, wherever His will would bring me.

I started my activity in Moldova in November 2002. Together with two co-sisters I came to Moldova to give a hand to the Mission of assisting the children of the street through the Regina Pacis Center of Receiving Children in

Chisinau.

I do not think it is appropriate to enter into the minutest details when talking about my missionary experience, I prefer in the simplest way to mention what is my mission and what opportunities I have to live and carry out daily activities alongside the children of the street who are accommodated by the Regina Pacis Foundation. It is something more than just a simple Placement Center, because in these years it has managed to become a real home for each of the children of the street placed here.

It is a very delicate situation, which I don't wish to comment, but only to respect the simple reason that these children are worthy to be respected, notwithstanding that they have been neglected, abandoned and even rejected by their own families, parents.





From the first meeting, I opened my heart to these children - so delicate, sensitive and weak confronting their destiny, to receive and accept them as they are, to listen and be close to them, to try in any way to ease their suffering. It is not easy to conquer them as the soul of every child / person can be fully understood only by God. But the reality has shown us that the presence of a person-friend is very important to make them understand that life continues and each of us is responsible for his own happiness, that everyone should be actively involved in rebuilding his own life in order to live earnestly and quietly, always looking to develop his own abilities.



I lived unforgettable moments with the children, moments that taught me many things that have changed me. It is a gift from God that put me to the test, which develops and refines me continuously. But my self-dedication continues, having a well-determined goal, to make children happy, to feel that God exists, that He is close and that He doesn't abandon his children in difficult moments.

The miracle continues, because life continues, because we grow, we develop not only physically but morally and spiritually and we also strive to become someone, to fulfill our own lives, which otherwise is a real quality leap.

These values are educated and developed in these children by the multidisciplinary team of the Placement Center Regina Pacis, through the activities organized and conducted in the Center, and their success does not only depend on me personally.

It is a team of competent people, real professionals, who devote themselves completely, day by day, so that these children grow comfortably and ready to face any obstacle that they will confront to integrate into society.

Sr. Leodenira FERNANDES

In Moldova 170 people died of AIDS

On the occasion of International Day of commemorating the people who died of HIV / AIDS in Moldova, along with more than 30 other states in partnership with the civil society, there are organized various activities of information, promotion of a healthy lifestyle, measures of prevention, treatment and support for people with HIV / AIDS.

In various educational institutions and organizations of Moldova several documentaries on the issues of HIV and AIDS are shown, produced in Moldova and



neighboring countries. Thematic film festival has been organized by the Representation of the Foundation "AIDS Foundation East-West" in Moldova.

Saturday, the League of people living with HIV in Moldova organized an action in the Cathedral Park and the Public Garden "Stefan cel Mare" from the center of the capital, dedicated to the memory of people who died of AIDS.

The International day commemorating the people deceased from AIDS is marked every year in the world on the third Sunday of May. On this occasion, an international campaign is organized – The Day of burning candles - which has become one of anti-HIV/AIDS movements worldwide.



The purpose of this day is to commemorate over 25 million people who died of AIDS, and to attract, once more, the attention of the society to the problem of HIV / AIDS, to remind us that the infection concerns each of us and that the lack of control over it leads to death of millions of people. However, through the organized activities we aim at supporting the 32.5 million people, who live with HIV.

Last year 795 new cases of HIV infection / AIDS were detected in Moldova, including the eastern counties - 343 cases. Since the beginning of the epidemic 170 people died of AIDS. 715 people infected with HIV / AIDS receive antiretroviral treatment for free.

Source: Info-Prim Neo

In 2008 there were born over a thousand babies more than in 2007



In 2008, the number of live-born babies constituted 39,018 thousand, attesting an increase compared to 2007, by 2.8 percent. According to data provided by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), the birth rate in 2008 was of 10.9 live-born babies per 1,000 inhabitants, and the birth rate in rural areas was higher than in urban areas, constituting 11.8 per cent and 9.7 percent respectively.

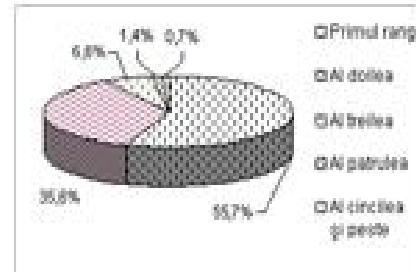
At the same time, more than half of live-born children were boys, masculinity ratio being 106 boys to 100 girls.

According to NBS, although extra-conjugal birth level remains high, the share of children born outside marriage continues to decline (from 23.3 percent in 2006 to 22.3 in 2008).



Also, the number of babies born to mothers younger than 20 years old decreased, they constituted 10.5 percent of the total number of live-born babies, compared to 11.3 percent in 2007, or 13.0 percent in 2006.

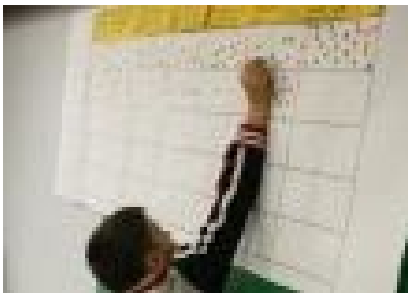
In the reference year a slight increase of live-born babies of the I rank has been registered, constituting 53.7 percent, while the share of live-born babies of the II, III and above ranks – has registered a decrease. Most children born in big families have mothers from rural areas - 84.4 percent of the total number of newborns from this category.



The average age of a mother at her first birth was of 23.1 years old. However, mothers from rural areas give birth at a younger age - 22.2 years old, than mothers from urban areas - 24.4 years old.

Source: Flux.md

The voice of children who monitor the compliance with the children's rights in Moldova becomes important for the reports and studies carried out by the adults



Children's allegations from the Working Group for Monitoring Child Rights in Moldova are cited in the studies and reports carried out by various organizations and institutions from the country and abroad. And so, children's voice is heard and becomes important for adults.

The study "100 most pressing problems of the Republic of Moldova in 2008" released in 2009, considers "quite reasonable and credible the allegations" of children, who monitor the compliance with the children's rights, when they say that the right for education is the most violated right. This study, prepared by IDIS "Viitorul"(future), records observations of children in the chapter devoted to the right for quality education and also makes references to the First Report of Children regarding the Compliance with the Convention on Children Rights of 2008, when it states that "non-discrimination is one of the children's rights and of young people violated quite frequently".

At the same time, the opinions of children from Moldova are included in the Final Comments of the Geneva Committee regarding the Child Rights, formulated after the presentation by the Government of Moldova of the Report regarding the implementation of the Convention on Child Rights in Moldova. Previously, children have elaborated their own report and presented it before the Committee in Geneva.



The Working Group of Children for Monitoring the Child Rights in Moldova was created by the Center for Information and Documentation on Child Rights (CIDCR) in July 2008, and brings together 22 children from 12 regions of the country. Their histories and information presented within some workshops, organized in Chisinau, serve as a source of documentation for the Child Advocate of Moldova, which has already heard their reports regarding the right for protection against violence and regarding the right for participation.

The findings of children who monitor the compliance or violation of their own rights in Moldova have also been cited by the "Euro monitor" (no. 3 / 12 and no. 4 / 13), reports elaborated by the Association for Participatory Democracy "ADEPT" and the Independent Analytical Center "Expert-Group".

Source: DECA-press

The Family festival will be organized for the first time in Moldova



On May 15 of each year, in accordance with the decision of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted by the resolution 47/237 of September 20 1993, the international community marks the International Day of Family, agency NOVOSTI-MOLDOVA communicates.

Celebrating this day is particularly important in the world; several states and communities organize activities aimed at improving the general framework to enhance the role of family in society. On this occasion, there will be held the first Family Festival in the Republic of Moldova.

The event will take place on 15 and 17 May 2009 under the aegis of the Ministry of Social Protection, Family and Child in collaboration with United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Fund for Women (UNIFEM), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and carried out by the "Equinox" and "Sense Music".

The Family Festival will be launched during a press conference on Friday, the 15th of May 2009. The actions included in the festival will be held on May 17 in three cities simultaneously: Chisinau, Balti and Cahul. In the capital the ceremony will take place in the Public Garden "Stefan cel Mare" around the basin, starting at 13:00. In Balti the celebration will be held in the Palace of Culture and in Cahul – on Hora Square, both starting at 16:00.



The cultural and artistic program of the event will include more actions. Among them handing out honorary certificates and gifts for couples that will register their marriage on May 15, for newly born babies on this day and for families who celebrate their "Golden Wedding" this year.

At the same time, on May 17, within each stage of the three organized on the territory of the republic there will take place several actions, such as children hour, grandparents hour, family lunch, the completion of competitions - family album, family movie and family song.

Within the action "family cinema", on large screens in the Public Garden "Stefan cel Mare"(Chisinau), Hora Square (Cahul) and in front of the Palace of Culture (Balti) there will be projected the movie "A man and a woman"(1966) by Claude Lelouch who has impressed the whole world, bringing a new breath to our era. The film is one of the best-known love stories getting 2 Oscar awards, 2 Golden Globe awards and the Palme D'Or prize.

To the Festival events, organized in the three cities, are invited all the inhabitants of the country in order to mark the International Day of the Family, a celebration that comes to contribute to the stability and social harmony through the promotion of perennial values of the family. The organizers hope, in the future, to expand this project throughout the country turning it into a traditional one.

Source: All Moldova

Parents who do not take care of their children are likely to pay fines or to stay in arrest



Parents who fail to properly meet the obligations of sustenance, education and training of the child may be punished with a fine from 100 to 400 lei, with the new con code enforcement on 31 May 2009.

Parents whose children vagabond, beg or commit socially dangerous acts risk bigger sanctions - a fine from 300 to 500 lei or unpaid work for community service for up to 40 hours.

Also, those who prevent without reason one or both parents, grandparents, brothers and sisters to communicate with the child or to take part in his education will be sanctioned with a fine from 200 to 400 lei.



Persons who do not communicate to the tutorial authorities about the existence of a danger to the life or health of the child or the violation of his rights and his legitimate interests risk a fine from 100 to 200 lei.

Persons with a responsible position in the institutions of healing, training, social assistance and other similar institutions, which will not communicate within 3 days, about the children left without parental care that can subsequently be transmitted for adoption or guardianship (trusteeship) for the care and education, will be liable to punishment with a fine from 400 to 1,000 lei.

At the same time, the person responsible for the birth ward, from the curative, preventive institution, who will present false information about a child left without parental care, will have to pay a fine from 1000 to 2000 lei. The new con code also provides sanctions for persons and economic agents who engage minors in performing jobs prohibited by law. Thus, physical persons risk a fine from 600 to 800 lei, legal persons – a fine from 2000 to 3000 lei. In both cases, these persons will be deprived of the right to carry out a certain activity for a period of 3 months to a year.

Persons who get a minor in a state of intoxication caused by alcohol or other substances will be punished with a fine from 400 to 800 lei. If these will be proven to be the child's parents or persons who take their place, or persons against whom the child is in relation of subordination, penalties will be tougher - a fine from 800 to 1200 lei.

Physical persons that will sell cigarettes and alcohol to minors will be sanctioned with a fine from 1200 to 2000 lei, and legal persons - from 2000 to 4000 lei, being deprived of the right to exercise a certain activity for a period from 3 months to one year.

The offender is entitled to pay half of the established fine, if paid within 72 hours since its establishment. If the person has not paid the fine for 30 days, the court may replace it, depending on the case, with: a fine with a double amount, deprivation of the right to carry out a certain activity for a period from 6 months to a year; unpaid work for community service or con arrest.

If the legal person didn't willingly pay-up the fine within 30 days from the date of its establishment, it may be replaced with deprivation of the right to carry out a certain activity for a period from 6 months to a year. (IPN)

Source: jurnal.md



Pensions cover only 55 percent of the living wage



The average amount of living wage per person in Moldova constituted in 2008, 1368 lei (121 USD) on average per month raising up from 2007 with 24.4 percent. The increase of the living wage has been determined both by an increase in food prices and the changes that have occurred in the structure of consumption expenditures of the population, in particular, by the increase in the share of expenditure on non-food goods and

services.

According to the data of National Bureau of Statistics, the evolution of the quarterly progress of the living wage in 2008 has registered similar tendencies with those from 2007, the second quarter being an exception, for which the highest value of the living wage throughout the year was registered, given that during this period the highest level of prices was registered compared with other periods of the year.

Depending on the residence area, the living wage for the year 2008 is characterized by maximum values for urban areas - 1483 lei (131 USD) and the minimum values for rural areas - 1288 lei (114 USD). This gap is explained by differences in the food basket composition and the structure of consumption expenditures of households in urban and rural areas.

Regarding the categories of population, the highest value of living wage refers to the population of an age capable of work - 1447 lei (128 USD), especially men - 1535 lei (136 USD). For pensioners, the living wage constituted 1167 lei (USD 103) and represents 85.3 percent of the average for the total population. The average amount of the monthly pension, established on the 1st of January 2009 constituted 646 lei (57 USD) and covers the living wage for this category of population in proportion of 55.4 percent.

Sustaining a child of school age requires at least 125 USD per month

The living wage for children is on average 1267 lei (USD 112) per month, with a differentiation of this indicator in terms of the child age - from 491 lei (44 USD) for a child aged up to 1 year old and around 1406 lei (125 USD) for a child aged from 7 to 15 years old. Given that the monthly allowances for children up to the age of 1.5 years, constitutes on average, 323 lei (29 USD) for insured persons and 150 lei (13 USD) for the uninsured, these social payments cover the needs of children up to the age of 1 year old in proportion of 65.7 percent and respectively in proportion of 29.5 percent.



In relation to available income of the population, there is a decrease in the ratio between this indicator and the average amount of the living wage compared to the previous years, since the living wage registered an increase in rate as compared with the one registered in the case of population income.

In 2008, the average salary of an employee constituted 2530 lei (USD 224) and increased compared to 2007 in nominal value by 22.5 percent. For the older people capable of work, the living wage was 1447 lei (USD 128) and registered an increase by 24.8 percent.

Overall, all employed persons, except those of pisciculture, could cover the living wage for the elderly population capable of work. As for the people engaged in financial activities, their salary exceeded the minimum living by 3.8 times and for the activities of transport and communications, construction - by 2.4 times. Compared with 2007, the ratio between the average salary and the living wage has been increasing for the employees in education, health and agriculture, but for the other activities this indicator has been declining, especially for the employees of pisciculture, wholesale trade and retail, hotels and restaurants.

Source: Flux.md



Regina Pacis Foundation invites you to participate in the National Campaign

60 caps = 1 loaf of bread

Please do not throw the plastic caps! We gather them to "turn them into bread" for the needy ones.



Thank you!

To participate in this campaign, Please bring on the caps to the following address:

17 Avram Iancu str, Chisinau, Moldova