Ajungem Mari

ACTIVITY REPORT 2025



Changing the world
one step at a time

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Message from Ajungem MARI President

A YEAR FULL OF MEANING

Dear partners and supporters,



IARINA TABAN
Președinte & fondator Ajungem MARI

2025 was a year that showed us, once again, how much a community can do when it chooses to remain close to vulnerable children. In a world where time and attention are increasingly difficult to give, thousands of people chose to be present.

We are grateful to the over 4,000 individual donors and the 150 companies who supported us this year. Thanks to them, a community of over 1,500 volunteers has formed around the 3,500 children and young people we support — people who chose to become mentors, role models and sources of emotional stability.

For children who grow up without stable family support and who have experienced abandonment or family separation, the greatest need is not material but relational: an adult who stays close and believes in them. Our volunteers are exactly that — present every week through school support, educational and recreational activities, outings, trips, and vocational guidance.

The relationships they build, with patience and consistency, are what truly change lives. Volunteers are the key to all our interventions, being the ones who enroll, motivate and accompany children to psychotherapy, speech therapy, vocational and qualification courses — tools that help them discover their abilities and build their own path.

Because the needs of these children are complex and ongoing, in 2025 we set out to expand our circle of supporters and bring society closer to the reality of vulnerable children through the “Living Museum of Empathy”, a project that tells stories about empathy and involvement.

The impact of Ajungem MARI goes beyond direct beneficiaries: through collaboration with specialists and the training of social system staff, we contribute to a deeper change in the way institutionalized children are understood and supported.

We look ahead with the same dedication and invite you to remain alongside us to offer every child a real chance at an independent and dignified life.

With gratitude,
Iarina Taban
President & founder of Ajungem MARI

Ajungem Mari

About Ajungem MARI

VISION, MISSION AND VALUES





VISION

We aspire to a country where no child is condemned to loneliness, emotional abandonment, or a future limited by the system in which they live.
We work towards a society where every child in the care system has access to stable relationships with trusted adults, quality emotional and educational support, and real opportunities to become an independent adult engaged in the community.

MISSION

We support children and young people in the care system to discover their potential and build an independent life.
We do this through consistent volunteering and long-term supportive relationships that provide children with stability and trust; personal development programmes and vocational guidance; psychological and emotional support; life experiences and social integration, preparing them for life outside the system.

VALUES

Long-term relationships

For a child who has experienced abandonment, the greatest fear is that people will disappear again. We offer consistency as a form of healing. We are not momentary rescuers, but friends who show up week after week, becoming anchors of normality and long-term trusted figures.

Education

Every "invisible" child has enormous potential, often overshadowed by trauma. Through education, encouragement and new experiences, we help them move from "I can't, there's no point" to "I want to succeed in life." We believe in them until they begin to believe in themselves too, giving them the courage to dream again.

Responsibility

We work with fragile hearts, which is why we act with the utmost responsibility. We commit to a rigorous volunteer selection process and ongoing training in the psychology of trauma and attachment. Interventions are structured and adapted to real needs, ensuring that the support provided is safe and sustainable.

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About Ajungem MARI

AJUNGEM MARI - THE TEAM



IARINA TABAN
PRESIDENT



ANA CRISTACHE
GENERAL DIRECTOR



VIVIANDA NICOLAE
VICE PRESIDENT



CLAUDIU COVRIG
FINANCIAR MANAGER



ELENA CHIRU
NAȚIONAL COORDINATOR



FLORIN OLTEAN
BUCHAREST COORDINATOR



MIRUNA NANU
PSIHOLOG & COORDINATOR ASSISTANT



ANDREEA BANIȚĂ
COORDINATOR ASSISTANT



RUXANDRA RUGINĂ
OUTINGS PROJECT COORDINATOR



EMILIA MOCAN
PROJECT MANAGER



ADINA PASCAL
PROJECT MANAGER



ANA-MARIA DOBRANICI
PROJECT MANAGER



BOGDAN NEDELESCU
PSYCHOLOGIST & COUNSELOR FOR VOLUNTEERS



ALEXANDRA ALBIN
PROJECT WRITING MANAGER



DANA ROTĂRUȘ
ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT



ALEX DUMITRESCU
EVENTS ORGANIZER



ALINA ȘANDOR
COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT



IONELA MODREANU
COORDINATOR ASSISTANT

About Institutionalized Children

HISTORY AND CONTEXT OF INSTITUTIONALIZED CHILDREN

In Romania, over 35,000 children live in the special care system. Behind this vast number are just as many faces and stories marked by a profound need for affection and safety.

Most of these children are not orphans — they come from families that were unable to provide adequate care. Harsh experiences of abandonment, family separation, and repeated moves between centers keep them in a state of constant alertness. This "migration" has a complex traumatic impact, affecting the child's psychological, emotional, and even neurological development.

Although conditions in centers have improved, the emotional resources and specialists needed to "heal" inner wounds are often lacking. An institutionalized child frequently feels "invisible" and tends to believe they "cannot" or that there is "no point" in dreaming. Educational gaps and low self-esteem become major obstacles to independence.

For a tender heart that has known rejection, consistency is a form of healing. Long-term interventions — psychotherapy, school preparation, and independent living mentoring — are essential for transforming trauma into confidence.
Our goal is for these young people to no longer be defined by their past as "state children," but to become autonomous adults.



Ajungem Mari

About Institutionalized Children

THE NEEDS OF INSTITUTIONALIZED CHILDREN

The deepest need of children in the care system is emotional safety. A child who has experienced abandonment or repeated separations lives with a constant fear that keeps them in a state of permanent alertness, always expecting another negative change to destabilize their world.

Accumulated traumas (neglect, abuse, institutionalization) leave deep marks on psychological and emotional development, causing behavioral disorders, social maladjustment, and even changes in brain development. Many children come to believe that they "cannot" or that there is "no point" in trying.

Our research and experience show that the most effective recovery takes place in a stable family environment, through adoption or long-term foster care. And for those for whom this is not possible, consistency becomes a form of healing.

We work with these children through a flexible and adaptable structure:
•Volunteer teams — We work with smaller or larger groups of children through teams of two volunteers, offering them positive models of collaboration and connection.
•Individual support — When a child's specific needs or the center's requirements call for it, we provide individual mentoring and preparation.

In this way, we are able to offer personalized support that gradually transforms resignation into confidence.

3.200
children enter annually into the care system

25%
of children end up in centers as a result of abuse suffered or neglect

32%
of children end up in centers due to poverty

1 din 10
children are born to a minor mother

1 din 3
of children spent 90% of their life in the care system

The Impact of Ajungem MARI on Institutionalized Children

SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN

Ajungem MARI brings about a profound change in the lives of vulnerable children, transforming them from young people who felt invisible and lacking confidence into responsible, life-ready adults. This transformation is supported through concrete tools that help them overcome the traumas of abandonment and family separation.



Changes observed in children include:

- **Emotional development and self-confidence** – Children learn to express their needs, manage their emotions, and let go of the belief that no one will help them.
- **Motivation and better academic results** – Participation in tutoring sessions and interactive workshops eliminates the fear of failure and transforms school subjects into clear concepts.
- **Independence and responsibility** – Through practical experiences and encouragement, children learn to make decisions, manage their time, and take on responsibilities.
- **Perspective de viitor** – Children develop clear goals and confidence that they can build an autonomous life, reducing the risk of social exclusion after leaving the care system.

In concrete terms, Ajungem MARI gives children the tools they need to discover their potential and to see themselves as valuable people, capable of contributing to their community in turn.

The Impact of Ajungem MARI on Institutionalized Children

GEORGIANA'S STORY

Georgiana's story is a testament to how the presence of a trusted adult can rewrite a child's future. Georgiana entered the system when she was just 5 years old, spending the first 2 years in a foster care center. It was a period so painful that her mind chose to erase those memories. Her only support was her twin sister, with whom she was later moved to a family-type home.

Although in the new home they found care, the traumas led them to choose isolation as a survival strategy. At school, after their teacher introduced them as children in need of help, years of torment and marginalization from classmates followed.



„We are human beings too. It doesn't matter where we come from, but how we behave. Accept us like any other child. We don't ask for pity, but for respect."

"Volunteers come with open hearts. If you give them a chance, your life can change radically."

Georgiana, a young person raised in the care system

The radical change came through Ajungem MARI volunteers, about whom Georgiana says they impacted her life. They involved the children in activities to help them grow, and the turning point was the founding of a theatre group. Theatre became a mirror in which Georgiana saw a different version of herself, discovering her sensitivity and learning to accept herself as she is.

The impact of this consistent support is visible and tangible today:

- Georgiana passed her Baccalaureate exam and was admitted to the Faculty of Theatre in Iași, majoring in puppetry and marionettes.
- She went from wanting to avoid school to dreaming of an artistic career and doing further good.
- Today, she encourages children in the system to be brave: "Try to become the best version of yourselves. If we can, you can too."

Real impact comes from authentic relationships and emotional stability. Volunteers who stay by children's side transform suffering into hope and talent into a future.

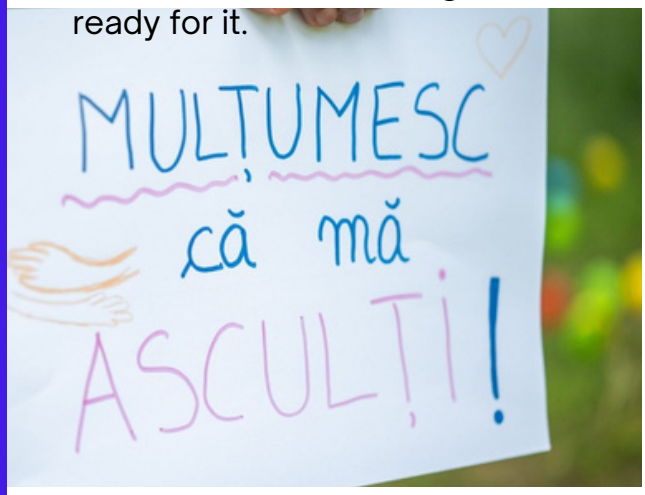
Listen to Georgiana's story HERE

The Impact of Ajungem MARI on Institutionalized Children

VICTOR'S STORY

Victor is 17 years old and is a quiet teenager who learned too early that life can hurt. Following the loss of his father and his mother's abandonment, Victor was forced, at a young age, to become a parent and protector for his younger brother. At the same time, he managed the silent pain of losing his sister who had been given up for adoption. Entering the system at 15, overwhelmed by grief and depression, Victor withdrew into himself, repeated a school year, and resigned himself to a severe visual disability he was born with.

The transformation did not begin with grand promises, but with "small things" and the warm presence of a volunteer. The first step was gaining independence in the city. Although the metro and the unknown caused him paralyzing anxiety, Victor learned, accompanied by his volunteer, to navigate Bucharest in order to take his brother to classes. The waiting hours became a safe space in which Victor began to talk about his fears, anger, and the burden of being "the older one" without being ready for it.



> When it came to the future, he always said the same thing: "*I can't wait to turn 18, finish 10th grade and leave the system.*" Where? "*Home.*" A "home" that, in fact, no longer exists.
>
> Victor, a young person raised in the care system

A defining moment was the decision to have eye surgery. The volunteer's patience helped him overcome his fear and mistrust — Victor accepted the procedure, which was a success. This triggered an inner change: Victor began running, achieving better grades, and asking for help when he felt lost.

A accepted psychotherapy, his outbursts became less frequent, and his plans grew ambitious: he wants to take the Baccalaureate exam and attend driving school. He trains for football 5 times a week and is looking for a part-time job that will allow him to stay in school.

Victor is not a miracle — he is a teenager with a solid foundation who needed someone to tell him, again and again: "You can."

2025 RESULTS

- 1400 volunteers involved
- 54 volunteer training sessions
- 3.500 children and young people supported
- 323 social centers and homes
- 61.852 volunteer hours
- 1,104 outings and trips
- 223 children in vocational courses
- 128 children in therapy and speech therapy
- 116 children and young people in camps
- 216 children in exam tutoring
- 20 young people in qualification course
- 600 young people in career guidance workshops
- 50 youth career counseling
- 37 charitable events
- 18 career guidance visits

Ajungem Mari

Events and Campaigns

THE LIVING MUSEUM OF EMPATHY

MThe Living Museum of Empathy aims to reveal the invisible faces of abandonment: loneliness, fear, anger, sadness, but also the strength to move forward, the need to be loved, and the extraordinary capacity to be reborn with the help of the community.

In Romania, the history of child abandonment and institutionalization is a collective wound still open. Tens of thousands of children have passed through orphanages, growing up without family, without love, without protection and without emotional support. This past is not merely a painful memory, but a reality that continues to shape the present.

Ajungem MARI, the largest socio-educational programme for institutionalized children in Romania, has launched the “Living Museum of Empathy”, a long-term project that aims to create an interactive and emotional space connecting the general public with the reality of children in the care system, generating involvement and concrete action.



You cannot help but be struck when you hear what a child can go through. It is inhumane. When I read the letter I felt a great deal of pain, but also a kind of hope, because there are still people like those here. And these people, who create projects like this,
I would put them through a human photocopier, so there would be more of them among us, and maybe then we’d have some chance.

Alex Bogdan,
one of the actors who gave voice to children’s stories

This year, as part of the volunteer recruitment campaign, we announced the first intervention under the umbrella of the “Living Museum of Empathy” project — a series of stories of children in the care system, told by actors. Victoria Răileanu, Ofelia Popii, Vlad Logigan, Florentina Țilea, Alex Bogdan, Cătălina Mihai, Cosmin Dominte, Florin Aioane, Valentina Moghină, Beatrice Rubică, and Ana Turoș are some of the actors who agreed to step into the children’s shoes and convey the messages that these children do not always dare to speak aloud themselves.

Children’s stories performed by actors — HERE

Events and Campaigns

RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN

„The world awaits a hero, children are waiting for a friend”

In 2025, we ran an extensive recruitment campaign, aimed at people who wish to consistently offer some of their time to children and young people in the care system. The central message was simple: 3 hours a week, a smile and encouragement can make a difference in a child’s life.

The campaign conveyed a simple message: children don’t need heroes, they need people who are there for them, with patience and consistency — to listen, to spend time together, and to build, step by step, relationships based on trust and support.

We recorded a total of 2,399 applications, of which 1,568 were at national level and 831 in Bucharest. At the end of the recruitment process, we said “Welcome!” to 1,032 new volunteers who completed all the selection stages and signed their volunteering contracts.

The recruitment process included a comprehensive preparation programme encompassing 42 training sessions (in-person and online), delivered by the Ajungem MARI team and local coordinators. These sessions combined theoretical information (about the organization’s mission, children’s needs, concepts of trauma and conduct rules) with practical exercises and psychological assessment, necessary to prepare volunteers for working directly with beneficiaries.



„Ajungem MARI is the place where I met a different kind of people — wonderful people who give without asking “what do I get out of this”, because the reward is evidently the soul-deep satisfaction of doing good. It is the place where I grew as a person through the experiences I had. It is the place where I learned a great many new things. And not least, it is the place where I saw a world different from our ivory tower at home and at work — a world that makes you feel lucky and grateful for what you have and what you can give. The children and volunteers I met here have changed my life.” – Claudia Maftei, Ajungem Mari Volunteer

This year, Ajungem MARI Sibiu volunteers got involved in the 2025 recruitment campaign by organizing local events (yoga, football and stretching), managing to bring together, in a space of calm, energy and gratitude, people eager to get to know us and find out how they too can get involved.

Every smile, every breath and every kind thought showed us how fortunate we are, how many good-hearted people there are, and demonstrated once again how important the mission of Ajungem Mari is.

Events and Campaigns

DGASPC STAFF

Over 2,000 DGASPC staff members attended the training sessions organized by Ajungem MARI specialists

In 2025, we continued to travel across the country to meet our partners from the DGASPCs in the counties of: Hunedoara, Călărași and Timiș.
In the year 2025, DGASPC Olt and Călărași joined the other 27 counties. Through our meetings, we placed emphasis on developing as direct a line of communication as possible, presenting the results of our programme, and establishing a joint support strategy for institutionalized children and young people.

Training sessions

- Trauma: a bio-psycho-social approach
- Attachment styles
- About needs
- Gender identity and sexual orientation





In-person meetings with DGASPC

The Ajungem MARI team traveled to several counties to organize working meetings with DGASPC representatives, with the aim of strengthening institutional relationships and ensuring effective collaboration. During these meetings, programme directions were presented, collaboration methodology was established, the needs of children and young people were analyzed, and training opportunities for staff were identified.

The project was supported primarily through sponsorship from Istyle Retail, Pirios, Mapei Romania, Conectys Serv Telecom, and through funds collected via the 3.5% and 20% tax redirection mechanisms.

Events and Campaigns

AJUNGEM MARI TIMIȘ HEADQUARTERS

A beautiful dream took shape thanks to the people who believe in change. Ajungem MARI Timiș volunteers transformed, step by step, a simple space into a place full of life, colour and hope. With energy, enthusiasm and great dedication, each person contributed in the best way they knew how. It was more than work — it was heartfelt involvement, collaboration and the joy of building something together.

Today, the dream of a welcoming space, tailored to the team's needs, has become a reality. And its story has only just begun.

AN EMPTY SPACE BECAME HOME AT AJUNGEM MARI TIMIȘ!





„Once again, a simple but powerful truth was confirmed for me: when you team up with volunteers, nothing is impossible! Even though some of the activities were completely new to us, we threw ourselves enthusiastically into the action. We quickly divided up the responsibilities and got to work, as if we had been doing this all our lives."

Erika Nistor, local coordinator Timiș





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PERMANENT PROJECTS

Every experience, every outing with volunteers, every workshop in a center, every session with a therapist, every vocational course, every career orientation visit, and every conversation with volunteers plants in the child's heart the hope of a better future, different from what they have known in the environment they come from.



Ajungem Mari

Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

HOW DO WE SUPPORT OUR BENEFICIARIES?



Every volunteer creates a future

- **Educational support:** help with homework, organizing workshops and vocational courses
- **Personal development:** workshops, dance, music, camps, outings and trips
- **Emotional support and mentoring:** counseling, role models and friends for children
- **Impact real:** building confidence, hope and skills for a better future

Ajungem Mari

Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

VOCATIONAL COURSES

The “Vocational Courses” project creates concrete opportunities for institutionalized children and young people to discover their passions and build confidence in their own abilities. Through participation in diverse activities, they develop essential practical and social skills, learn to push their limits, and gain a clearer sense of their future directions. The experiences within the project contribute to increasing autonomy and better integration into independent life.

Results:

223 children from Bucharest and across the country benefited from support within the project, participating in vocational activities adapted to their interests and needs.





Activities are chosen according to each child’s interests, with volunteers playing an active role in identifying these interests and facilitating access to courses led by professionals from various fields:

- Courses outside centers for talented children — robotics, drawing and painting, rhythmic gymnastics, football, swimming, basketball, boxing, karate and other martial arts, chess, kickboxing, singing, photography, theatre, etc.
- Personal development, communication and public speaking workshops.

Funding for the courses was made possible with the support of partners Istyle Retail, Pirios, LSEG, sponsors who directed 20% of their profit tax, individual donors, and fundraisers on the Galantom platform.

Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

OUTINGS AND TRIPS

“Explorer for a Day” is a permanent project through which we give children and young people the chance to explore the city, to visit and discover new places, to meet and interact with new people. Every outing from the center is a new experience, and the time volunteers spend with them is far more appreciated than toys and clothes, for example, which they receive as donations.

Volunteers organize outings with children to the cinema, theatre, museums, various play areas, parks, climbing walls, laser tag, different festivals and events. They accompany the children and participate in activities alongside them, encourage them throughout, explain what they have to do, and discuss various topics with them such as family, friendship, moral values, careers, passions and emotions. Volunteers also explain how to behave in various situations.

Results:

1,104 trips and educational outings were organized for children and young people, especially outdoors, at adventure parks, shows, etc.



PROJECT BENEFITS - children and young people:

- develop a closer relationship with volunteers, who become their friends and role models
- gain more self-confidence and are more open to trying new experiences
- develop their socialization, communication and teamwork skills
- learn how to behave in society and how to react in certain situations
- learn to navigate the city and use public transport
- develop and relax outside of the centers
- discover and become more aware of the world around them.

The outings and trips were made possible with the support of partners Conectys Serv Telecom, Mapei România, Prios, Bearing Point, United Way, Raiffeisen, LSEG and Fundaţia Dacia, through company sponsorships, funds raised on the Galantom platform and online on our website, as well as through the 3.5% mechanism.

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Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

PSIHOTHERAPY AND SPEECH THERAPY

Children and young people in foster care centers carry heavy stories with them — neglect, abuse, abandonment, broken relationships, years spent in institutions. These experiences do not remain solely in the past. They are visible in the present: in the way they relate to others, in the behaviors they use to cope with a world that has disappointed them, in the difficulty of imagining a better future. This is precisely why psychotherapy is a real need. A medium and long-term therapeutic process gives children and young people the tools they need to understand what
has happened to them and to build, step by step, a healthier relationship with themselves and the world around them.

Results:

- **102 children from Bucharest and across the country took part in individual psychotherapy sessions**
- **26 de copii au participat la logopedie**



The real needs of children in the system are, at their core, emotional and relational. To know that there is a consistent, predictable adult who does not disappear after a week. This emotional stability is for them a kind of "solid ground," in a life otherwise marked by changes, separations and losses. Safety is not offered through a gift, but through presence, continuity and calm responses, even when they test the limits.

Corina Şerban, psihoterapeut

Since 2020, when the project was launched, and to date, approximately 231 children have benefited from therapy, some of whom are still continuing. The children and young people come from Bucharest, Arad, Argeș, Botoșani, Brașov, Buzău, Cluj, Constanța, Dâmbovița, Dolj, Galați, Gorj, Iași, Mureș, Neamț, Prahova, Sibiu, and Timiș.

Funding for the courses, psychotherapy and speech therapy was made possible with the support of strategic partners OLX Group, Industrial Electrical Solutions, Roechling Automotive Pitești, charitable events, and the online and SMS donation campaigns.

Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

SUPPORT FOR YOUTH

Alongside our counselors, young people go through a guidance process that helps them discover their abilities, interests and values, in order to make informed decisions about their career and educational path. Together they identify development needs and explore vocational training options, in line with their profile and the requirements of the labor market.

Access to practical experiences supports them in clarifying their direction and gaining confidence in their own choices. The workshops offer teenagers concrete information about different professions and the working environment, from training requirements to the necessary skills, such as teamwork and workplace behavior. Through direct interaction with professionals from various fields, young people can clarify their options and better understand what suits them. At the same time, we aim to motivate them to continue their studies and not drop out of school.

Results:

- **50 young people** supported through 105 individual vocational counseling sessions
- **20 young people** completed a qualification course in the fields of beauty (hairdressing, styling, manicure, cosmetics), bartending, and cooking.
- **600 teenagers** participated in online workshops introducing various professions and 16 career orientation visits
- **300 teenagers** participated in online workshops on school and career guidance
- **•22 de tineri were supported with study grants**





Grants for students, vocational counseling and qualification courses were made possible with funds raised through the Swimathon Bucharest project and with the support of partners OLX Group, LSEG, Istyle Retail, Pirios, Mapei Romania, Vitol, and through company support via the 20% mechanism.

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Permanent Projects for Beneficiaries

INDEPENDENT LIVING CAMPS

Independent living camps are practical programmes dedicated to young people over 15 years of age, in which they learn essential skills for everyday life — from managing a budget and cooking, to teamwork and taking on responsibilities.

These camps are necessary because many young people in foster care centers do not have access to such experiences in their daily lives, and upon leaving the system they face difficulties adapting. Through practical exercises and career orientation activities — such as CV writing, interview simulations and job preparation — young people develop the confidence and competencies needed for independent life.

Results:

In 2025, we organized 6 independent living camps for 113 children and young people

- **48 teenagers** — Iași, Botoșani, Vrancea
- **48 children and young people** — Bucharest
- **20 young people, pupils and students** — Arad, Botoșani, Brașov, Bucharest, Dolj, Galați, Iași, Vrancea



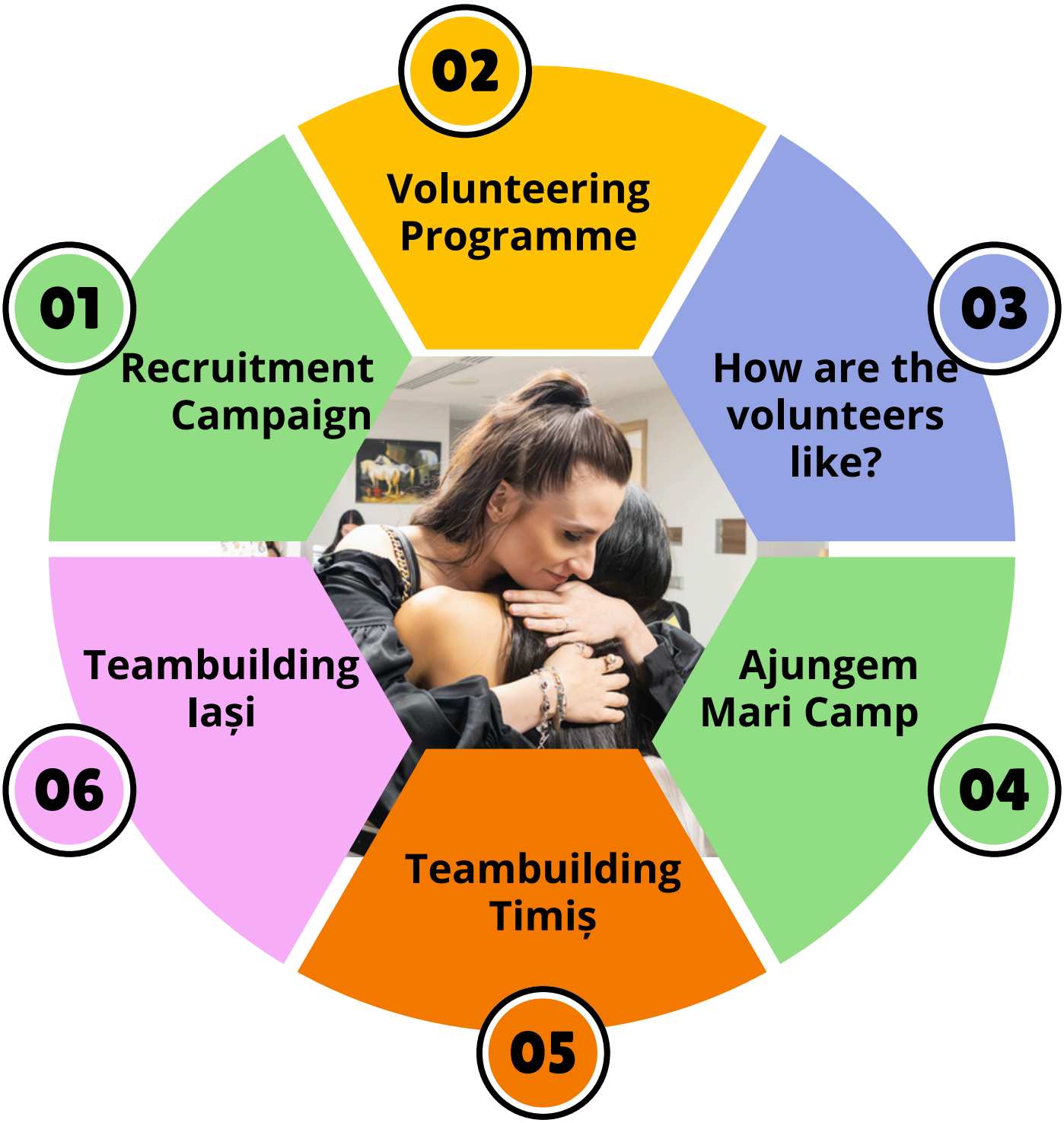
"It was a unique and truly fun experience. What impressed me most was the volunteer team, their involvement, the fact that they understood us regardless of any "whim" we had.
They somehow adapted to the way we are, and in the end it turned out to be a fantastic camp, which I had not expected!"

Andreea, 17 years old

The organization of independent living camps was made possible with the support of partners: Nhood, the Bucharest Community Foundation through the Swimathon event, Henkel, and sponsorships from the 20% profit tax redirection mechanism.

AJUNGEM MARI VOLUNTEERS

Every experience, every outing with volunteers, every workshop in a center, every session with a therapist, every vocational course, every career orientation visit, and every conversation with volunteers plants in the child's heart the hope of a better future, different from what they have known in the environment they come from.



Ajungem MARI Volunteers

THE HEART OF AJUNGEM MARI



Every volunteer creates a future

- **Educational support:** help with homework, organizing workshops and vocational courses
- **Personal development:** workshops, dance, music, camps, outings and trips
- **Emotional support and mentoring:** counseling, role models and friends for children
- **Real Impact:** building confidence, hope and skills for a better future

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Ajungem MARI Volunteers

NATIONAL VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME

Scophe volunteer's goal is to be a mentor, a role model, to help children discover the world, gain confidence in their own strengths, and become INDEPENDENT and RESPONSIBLE!

61.852 VOLUNTEERING HOURS

annually, provided weekly through various activities — homework help, workshops, outings, trips, accompanying to courses, therapy, training sessions, camps, counseling and mentoring



Volunteers are people of all ages and backgrounds, who commit weekly, for at least 8 months, to the education of children and offer them constant encouragement.
Currently, over 1,500 volunteers are consistently involved through interactive sessions in centers and activities outside of centers.
Ajungem MARI provides long-term support to all children enrolled in the programme and periodically recruits new volunteers to support them. Their selection takes place in 4 steps, and volunteers attend both mandatory and optional training sessions, receiving counseling and guidance.

2.300 VOLUNTEERS

were involved in the 2025 volunteering programme. These wonderful volunteers became teachers, friends and role models for institutionalized children and young people.

Ajungem MARI Volunteers

DEDICATED PEOPLE, ROLE MODELS AND FRIENDS FOR CHILDREN



- **1,400 active volunteers weekly** — delivering interactive sessions in centers and educational and recreational activities outside of centers
- **61,852 volunteer hours in 2025** — homework help, workshops, outings, mentoring
- **over 56% volunteer retention** rate year-on-year — 794 volunteers stayed on with children in the following school year
- over 2,000 new applications during the September 2025 recruitment drive, of which 1,400 volunteers attended training sessions and 1,000 signed their volunteering contract for the 2025-2026 school year.
- 2,300 volunteers involved annually in the educational and emotional development of children

How are Ajungem Mari volunteers like?

Ajungem Mari volunteers are empathetic, dedicated, patient and creative — people who are consistently involved in children's lives, inspire, support and guide them, become trusted friends and role models, offering encouragement, emotional support and development opportunities, so that every child can grow with self-confidence and believe in a better future.

Ajungem MARI Volunteers

HOW DO WE SUPPORT OUR VOLUNTEERS?

In 2025, we prepared 2,272 volunteers who participated in 54 training sessions.

Ajungem MARI volunteers have permanent access to resources, training and psychological counseling, to be as prepared and informed as possible to help the children they work with. Being an Ajungem MARI volunteer means entering a child's life and staying. Volunteers work with little people who have been through big things, and that is not always easy. That is why volunteers are not alone. They are there for the children, and we are here for them.

Trainings

- Introduction to volunteering
- Motivating children
- Trauma: a bio-psycho-social approach
- Attachment styles
- Working with children with special educational needs
- About needs — what lies behind our bevhaiors
- Sexual education
- About adolescence
- About sleep
- Gender identity and sexual orientation
- Play — the natural language of the child





Targeted support:

Ajungem MARI volunteers also had access to targeted support whenever they needed it. They were able to request individual psychological counseling sessions or participate in the support and counseling group, held fortnightly from January to May 2025.

The project was supported primarily through sponsorship from Istyle Retail, Pirios, Mapei Romania, and Conectys Serv Telecom.

Ajungem MARI Volunteers

AJUNGEM MARI CAMP

In 2025, we wrote together another memorable chapter in the Ajungem MARI story, organizing a new Camp dedicated to the people un nou Camp dedicat oame who give meaning to every volunteer hour.
We gathered volunteers and coordinators from across the country in a space where time had a different rhythm: warmer, more present, closer to what truly matters. We reconnected with one another and with our shared mission — to be real support for the children and young people who need trust, guidance and a touch of stability.

We built experiences together that blended play and learning: team activities that took us out of our routine, challenges that tested our creativity, and workshops that gave us useful tools for working with children.

The 2025 Camp was about authentic connection, about meaning and about that quiet but powerful energy that emerges when people are in the right place, for the right reasons. We returned home more grounded, more inspired, and with a clear feeling: that what we do together matters.











The 2025 Camp was made possible with the support of partners Istyle Retail, Pirios, Mapei Romania, and Conectys Serv Telecom.

Ajungem MARI Volunteers Volunteers

TEAMBUILDING - TIMIȘ

To form a strong team with a great desire to do good, in September 2025, Ajungem MARI Timiș volunteers opened their hearts participating in a teambuilding event organized in Maramureș.

The activities over the two days gave them energy and inspiration to become a strong team with a great desire to do good: a postal wall with positive messages, a group portrait with individual houses, a pottery demonstration and practical course, cards with amusing or philosophical challenges, many shared stories, walks, and the trust circle.











“The first teambuilding after the first year of volunteering started off somehow at full speed. We then discovered a wonderful place, the stillness, the positive energy of those around us, we breathed, we shaped unique forms from clay, and we found ourselves again beyond the busyness of everyday life.
I am grateful to have spent these days with so many wonderful people.
And not least, thank you Erika, for the way you inspire us, make us better, stronger, bring us together and unite us.”

Irina - voluntar Ajungem MARI Timis

Ajungem MARI Volunteers

TEAMBUILDING - IAȘI

In 2025, Ajungem MARI Iași volunteers carried out a series of activities aimed at:

- Team cohesion: veteran volunteers, new volunteers, local coordinators, center coordinators, local finance officer.
- Improving communication for better results in relationships with fellow volunteers, educators and children.
- Identifying solutions to difficulties encountered during the volunteering programme.
- Developing a set of skills useful in interacting with children of various ages
- Better medium and long-term volunteer retention.

The final activity in this regard was a two-day nature outing, during which the bond between volunteers was deepened, others formed it anew — it was a weekend full of connection.











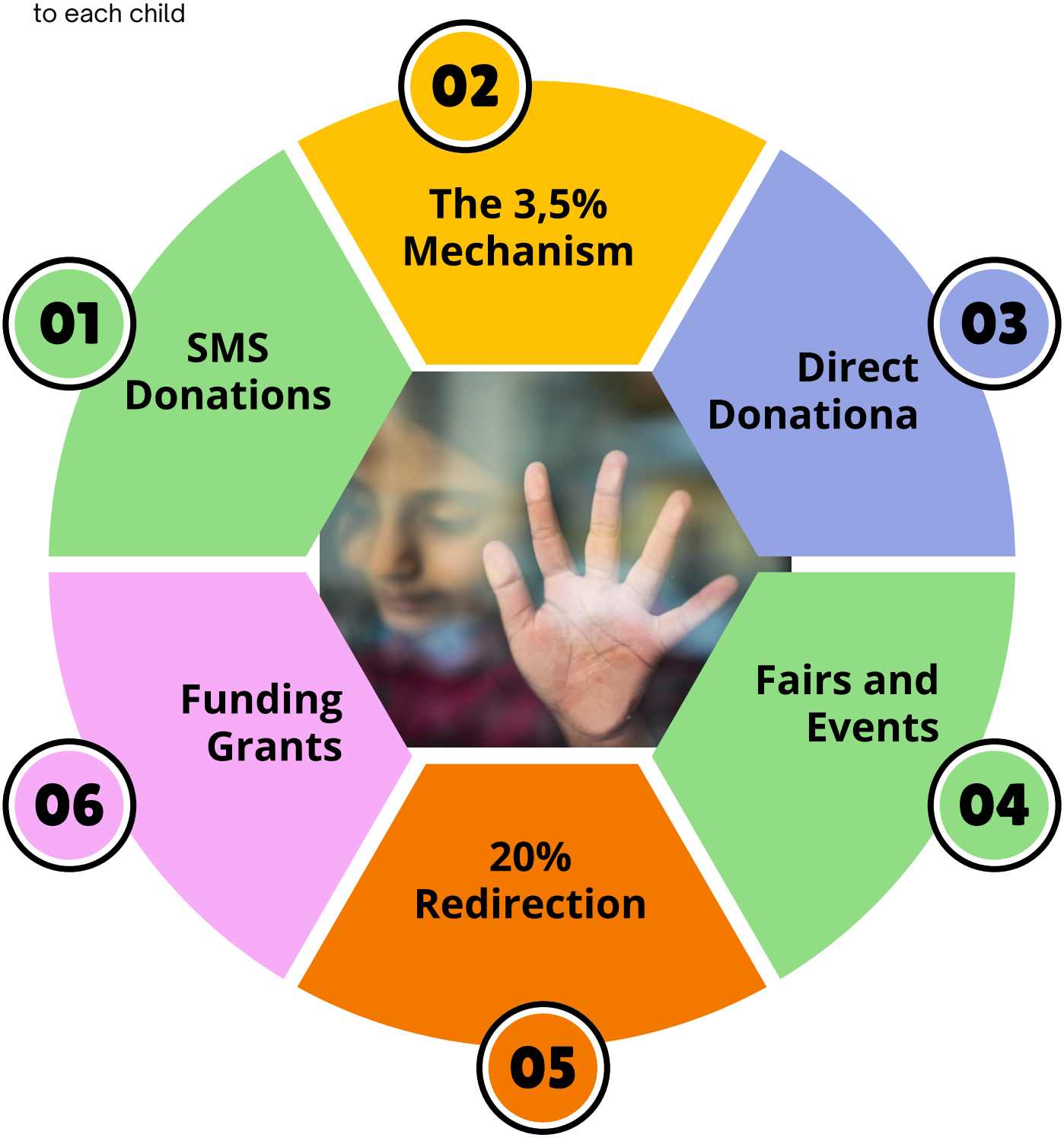
“2 days in Cheile Bicăjelului, 2 hikes sheltered from the rain, a crossing through a river, a few challenges and many lovely memories, plus 1 workshop on the journey of young people after leaving the system — that’s how the past weekend summed up for 19 of us.”

Adriana and Ștefana, local coordinators Iași

Ajungem Mari

PROJECTS & FUNDING SOURCES

Dhe diversity of our funding sources allows us to best respond to the varied needs of children in our programmes. From individual donations and fundraising campaigns, to partnerships and sponsorships, each contribution completes this support ecosystem. Together, they give us the flexibility to build solutions tailored to each child



Projects and Funding Sources

20% REDIRECTION

Funds received from companies through the 20% profit tax redirection mechanism support the foundation of Ajungem MARI's activity: building and maintaining a solid network of engaged volunteers.

We invest in effective coordination, volunteer recruitment and integration, as well as in their motivation and retention through consistent support. We provide counseling and organize sessions of training and teambuilding for the development of competencies and cohesion of volunteer teams at county or center level.

At the same time, these resources make it possible to organize all educational and recreational activities dedicated to children, ensuring continuity and quality in our interventions. The funds received are transformed, directly or indirectly, into experiences that shape destinies.



Ajungem Mari

Projects and Funding Sources

THE 3,5% MECHANISM

In 2025, we processed 1,100 Form 230 submissions for the redirection of personal income tax. These funds directly contribute to concrete development experiences for children in the programme. Through these resources, approximately 1,200 children participated in educational and recreational outings, discovering new places, learning through experience and developing their social skills. Volunteers were able to use the funds for children in their county.

In addition, the funds supported the participation of 38 children in vocational courses held over a period of 6 months, giving them consistent access to practical activities and guidance in discovering their own interests. In this way, individual redirections are transformed into real opportunities for exploration and development for children.



Ajungem Mari

Projects and Funding Sources

DIRECT DONATIONS

550 people donated, one-off or recurring, through the website, contributing to the support of 20 children in psychotherapy programmes for a year. At the same time, 170 people donated directly by bank transfer, making possible the investment in volunteer recruitment and retention — from promotional materials and training sessions, to local meetings and teambuilding activities.

These resources are essential for finding and supporting people who can become stable reference points in the lives of institutionalized children. Volunteers are the ones who offer consistency and presence, building relationships that help children stay engaged in the programme long-term and feel that they belong to a community.

It is a mission that requires patience, energy and emotional balance. The more prepared, supported and part of a team volunteers feel, the longer they can stay alongside children. And this continuity makes the difference — transforming their presence into real and lasting support



Projects and Funding Sources

SMS DONATIONS 8864

Nearly 400 people chose to donate, one-off or recurring, by SMS to 8864, to support the psychotherapy of institutionalized children and young people. Together, these contributions represented support for 10 children for a year — a year in which they had access to a safe space in which to be heard and understood.

Every donation, however small, becomes a real investment in a child's future. Because beyond financial support, what is essential is connecting with the right therapist — an adult in whose presence the child can trust, open up, and begin to heal deep wounds. This process takes time, patience and continuity. But changes do happen. A volunteer once told of how, after months of therapy, they heard for the first time the laughter of a child who had until then always been sad and quiet — "the most beautiful sound they had ever heard".

We are deeply grateful to all those who made this possible and gave children the chance to rediscover their voice and joy.



Projects and Funding Sources

CHARITABLE FAIRS

In 2025, Ajungem MARI's fairs came alive once again as small spaces of well-being, where the creativity of volunteers and children was transformed into concrete gestures of support. With patience and dedication, handmade products took shape, telling stories of courage, learning and care.
Every contribution meant more than an object — it was a form of real support. The funds raised made possible outings, new experiences and moments that bring children joy and confidence beyond the daily routine.

"Participating in the Ajungem MARI fair was more than just getting involved — it was an opportunity to transform passion into something meaningful. It brought me joy to know that every item donated further contributes, even a little, to beautiful experiences for children. It's the kind of involvement that stays with you and makes you want to come back."

Maria — exhibitor at the Ajungem MARI fair



2025 brought the most extensive edition of Ajungem MARI's charitable fairs, with 55 exhibitors present in Bucharest and active involvement in the counties of Mureș, Constanța, Prahova, Arad, Timiș and Iași.

Every participant's contribution was transformed into outings and trips for the children and young people we support — experiences essential for their development, which many of them would not be able to have otherwise.

Presence in so many counties shows that Ajungem MARI's mission resonates at national level, and volunteers, artisans and supporters from across the country mobilized alongside us. Across all charitable events, with the help of Ajungem MARI supporters, we managed to raise the sum of 209,096 RON.

Projects and Funding Sources

ONLINE FUNDRAISING

Through the Galantom online platform, supporters transformed their personal initiatives into concrete support — from “Give Your Birthday” to participation in the Bucharest Marathon and Bucharest Half Marathon, the Charitable Chess Competition, Santa Claus and Galantom Mărțișor — bringing the community closer to children.

These efforts made concrete results possible: 6 children participated for 6 months in vocational courses, 185 children had outings and trips, and 105 creative workshops were supported through educational materials. 5 children benefited from psychotherapy for a year, 7 young people received study grants for 3 months, and support for institutionalized children covered part of the volunteer recruitment process, as well as essential needs such as equipment, clothing, laptops and medical expenses. In addition, the emergency fund enabled a rapid response for an institutionalized young person whose home was affected by a fire. 82 fundraisers chose to support the cause on Galantom, carrying the message further to their own communities. Through their involvement, personal recommendation becomes a powerful driver of mobilization: people choose to join because someone close to them believes in this mission. Thus, the circle of supporters grows naturally, and more and more people become part of the children’s support network

Together, these contributions meant more than targeted support — they built stability, continuity and real opportunities for children and young people.

“Do you still remember what it was like when we played outside without a care? A football, a hopscotch, an ice cream on the kerb and that was it — we had a perfect day! Now I try to give other children such memories too — children who live in foster care centers and who fully deserve to laugh, explore and enjoy their childhood.

”

Alexandru Gatej — fundraiser at the Ajungem MARI charitable chess competition



Projects and Funding Sources

UNITED WAY PROJECT

In 2025, 880 volunteers got involved in the education of children and young people in social centers in Bucharest, Ilfov, Cluj and Timiș, working weekly with 878 children and young people. They supported school preparation activities, creative workshops and personal development activities, in small groups of 2–5 children, providing individualized and consistent support.

- **215 children / adolescents participated in educational outings and trips**
- **580 children / adolescents benefited from weekly school preparation**
- **531 children / adolescents from Bucharest, Cluj and Timiș participated in creative workshops in the centers**
- **25 children and young people participated in health education and environmental protection activities**





United Way Romania was, for the 10th consecutive year, a sponsor of Ajungem MARI for the volunteering project in support of children and young people in Bucharest and Ilfov, and for 3 years we have also been supporting children in the counties of Cluj and Timiș with their help. The project ran throughout 2025.

During the time spent as volunteers at the Emergency Reception Center, we found that "craft" activities, as I call them — DIY or painting — are the ones that attract them the most. These capture their attention, at least for a short time, showcase the extraordinary intelligence they all possess, and sometimes bring to light unsuspected talents. We always tried to come up with something new and interesting, to do our "homework", to prepare our materials and working methods in advance. This is how the enthusiastic greeting came about: "Miss, what are we doing today? What have you prepared for us?". For us, this raised the bar and required us to always show up with quality activities.

Mioara, volunteer and volunteer coordinator, Bucharest

PROJECT FUNDED BY

United Way Romania

Ajungem Mari

Projects and Funding Sources

LSEG PROJECT

As part of the Small Steps for Great Future project funded by the LSEG Foundation, over 200 children and young people from Bucharest and 15 counties received support in their transition to independent life through: academic and social grants, vocational courses, themed outings, mentoring, school guidance workshops and introductory workshops in professions in the Medical, HoReCa, Beauty, Sales and Commercial fields. The workshops gave teenagers a clearer understanding of their professional and educational options. We supported 12 young people through academic and social grants to prevent school dropout and encourage their educational and vocational journey.

Results:

- **6 young women received scholarships to continue their high school or university studies;**
- **6 students received academic scholarships;**
- **4 young people received mentoring and social grants to support their transition out of the care system;**
- **Over 200 young people participated in 4 introductory workshops across various professions;**
- **13 children participated in vocational and recreational courses (boxing, English, dance, photography, basketball);**
- **76 young people participated in outings and workshops focused on sustainability and environmental protection;**
- **95 final-year students (8th and 12th grades) participated in school and career guidance workshops;**
- **23 volunteers participated in a training session on health and sexual education**





The activities I took part in motivated me, made me more confident in myself and, above all, helped me meet many interesting people who inspired me. Thank you so much for everything! I am truly grateful!

Virgil, 20 years old

PROJECT FUNDED BY LSEG FOUNDATION

Projects and Funding Sources

PEPCO PROJECT

Discover Your Wings! project took place in Gorj county, at the Barza Aerodrome, where 5 educational workshops were organized for institutionalized young people, especially those with special needs. The activities included an introductory workshop on the principles of flight, two workshops on building aircraft models, and two personal development workshops, followed by a final meeting to present the results. In total, 38 children actively participated in all activities, with the support of over 15 volunteers.

Through these workshops, young people had the opportunity to learn through experience, develop practical and social skills, and stimulate their creativity. The activities had a positive impact on self-confidence, motivation for learning, and relating to others, contributing to personal development and the discovery of individual potential.

Results:

- 5 educational workshops, implemented with the support of over 15 volunteers;
- 38 children who actively participated and completed all activities;
- 1 introductory workshop on the principles of flight;
- 2 model-building workshops, during which models were created, stories were written, kites were flown, and barriers were overcome;
- 2 personal development workshops;
- An exhibition organized featuring the works produced throughout the project.





„I really loved this project. We were delighted, impressed and enjoyed it very much. We'll be back next year!" – copil participant

"This is the first time I feel like I'm part of something important." – voluntar

PROJECT FUNDED BY pepco

Projects and Funding Sources

PEPCO PROJECT

Painting for the Future project took place in one of Bucharest's foster care centers, where 5 therapeutic painting workshops were organized for institutionalized children and young people. The first workshop included preparation of activities and setting of themes for the mural painting, while in August 4 further outdoor workshops took place. Each workshop was attended by 15 beneficiaries, for a total of 75 attendances.

PrThrough these workshops, children expressed their imagination and emotions, and the wall of the center was transformed into a collective work of art, completed with positive messages chosen by the participants. The activity had a beneficial impact on the emotional well-being of beneficiaries, contributing to the development of creativity, the strengthening of social relationships and the increase of self-esteem.

Results:

- 5 therapeutic painting workshops
- 15 beneficiari (a total of 75 attendances)
- 8 voluntari consistently involved
- stimulation of creativity, collaboration and emotional expression
- The revitalisation of the exterior wall of a center in Sector 1, Bucharest





„A superb project... the children are so involved and participate with such enthusiasm and dedication... they always discover/experiment with something new, with inspiration, imagination and effort, and we always discover new and wonderful things about them."

"Patience, dedication, imagination and work, so that all the children from the House can enjoy it, through active participation, but also in the long term, the Wall of their House now having a different charm."

Voluntari Ajungem Mari

PROJECT FUNDED BY pepco

Projects and Funding Sources

S.T.E.P.S TOWARDS MOBILITY

As part of the S.T.E.P.S. Towards Mobility project — funded by Fundația Dacia for Romania — 200 children and young people from 3 counties participated in outings that played an essential role in supporting the educational, emotional and social development of beneficiaries, giving them the opportunity to explore the environment outside the centers and interact with diverse cultural and community contexts, career guidance workshops and visits offering concrete examples of professions and real work settings, as well as reading workshops aimed at improving functional literacy and self-confidence for institutionalized children/young people with educational difficulties.

Results:

- **19 young people** participated in career orientation visits and workshops in various professions;
- **146 young people** participated in 14 educational outings;
- **35 children** participated in reading workshops.



„The children were very excited by the visit to Eturia — they were particularly attracted by the way passion for travel blends with professionalism. They enjoyed discovering how tourist experiences are built and were impressed by the open and creative atmosphere in the team. For some of them, it was an experience that sparked their curiosity and desire to explore a career in tourism."

Alina, Voluntar Ajungem Mari

PROJECT FUNDED BY FUNDAȚIA DACIA PENTRU ROMÂNIA

Ajungem Mari

Projects and Funding Sources

SWIMATHON BUCHAREST

63 young people aged between 15 and 24, from Bucharest, Iași, Botoșani and Vrancea, participated in 4 independent living preparation camps, where they took part in workshops specially designed for them that helped them develop the skills needed for life after leaving the care system.

The young people had opportunities for personal development and practical learning in a safe and stimulating environment, through activities tailored to their needs — independent living workshops, money management exercises, employment simulations and social skills development sessions.









"It was a unique and truly fun experience. What impressed me most was the volunteer team, their involvement, the fact that they understood us regardless of any "whim" we had. They somehow adapted to the way we are, and in the end it turned out to be a fantastic camp that I had not expected!"

A., a young person from the Ajungem MARI programme

PROJECT FUNDED BY

Swimathon București

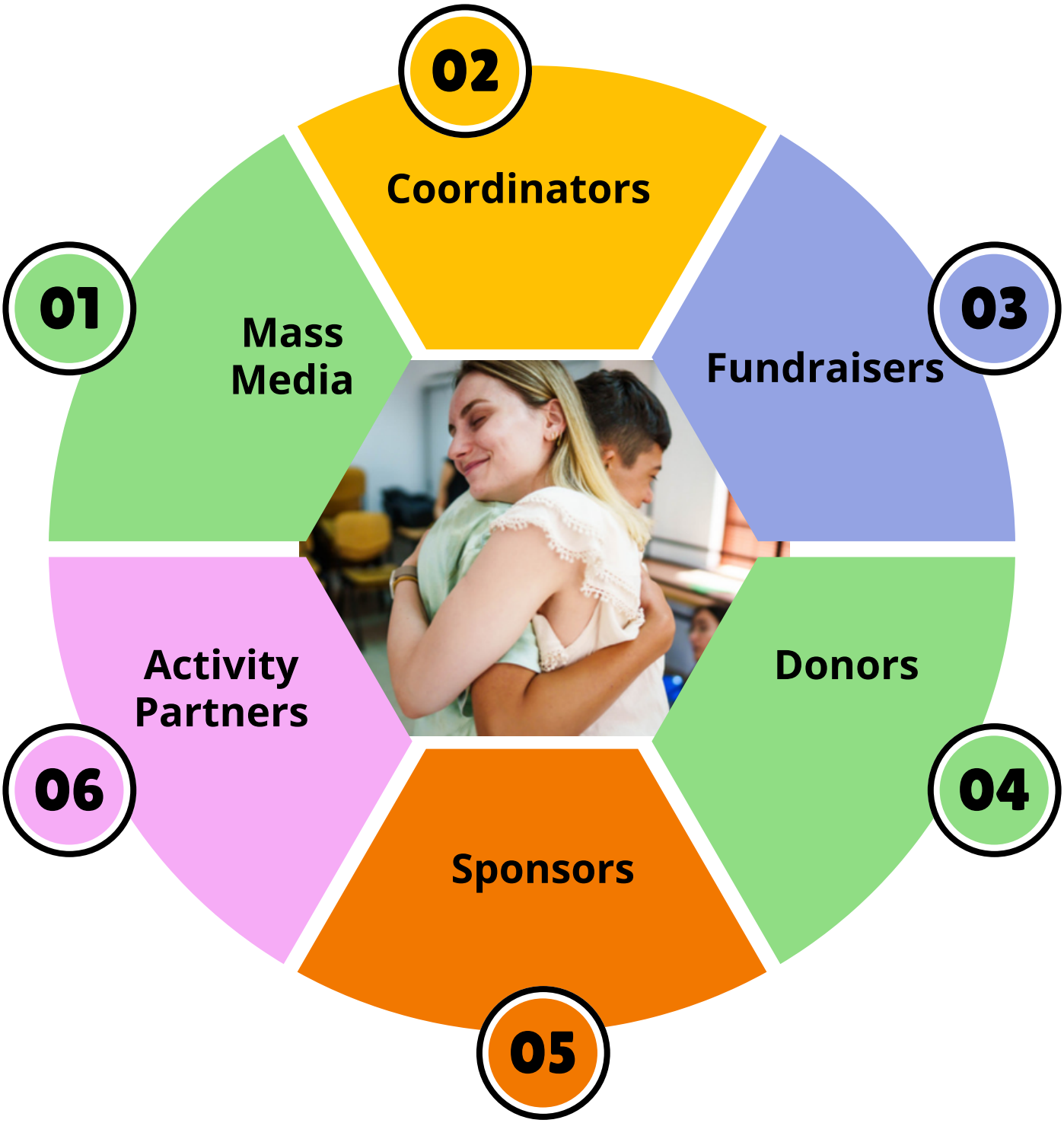
antrenat de FUNDAȚIA COMUNITARĂ BUCUREȘTI

Ajungem Mari

AJUNGEM MARI SUPPORTERS

Se spune It is said that it takes a village to raise a child. For the 3,500 institutionalized children in our programmes, this “village” is made up of volunteers and donors, fundraisers and partners who choose to get involved every day.

They are the people who transform care into action, build trust where it was lacking, and provide continuity where there was fragility. Whether visibly or through less visible but essential contributions, every gesture becomes a bridge to the future



Ajungem MARI Supporters

COORDINATORS

Regardless of the obstacles she encounters in her mission, Erika Nistor is happy that she can make a difference in the lives of children who would otherwise not have the chance to experience things absolutely necessary for their development.

Ajungem MARI is the family I was given as a gift and that I always choose.

"Without us, the children would be different — less confident — and without volunteering, we would not have learned how much a smile means, whether given or received, a hug, a word of appreciation or encouragement."

Erika Nistor - Volunteer and Local Coordinator Timiș



When you say Alina Șandor you say "the magic elf." She is the person who says Yes before hearing all the details, if she knows it's about being helpful.
She loves life and she loves people, and this shows in everything she does and in the passion with which she does it.

"CI believe every meeting with the children tells a new, beautiful story. They are moments that, in turn, leave a mark on our own lives."

Alina Șandor — Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Mureș"



"Volunteering taught me to be more present, more patient, much more empathetic.

Almost 10 years ago, when I signed up as a volunteer at Ajungem MARI, I thought I would be the one doing the helping.

The truth? I was the one who received: a warm hug, a drawing with little hearts, an unexpectedly sincere question."

Adriana Costin - Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Iași



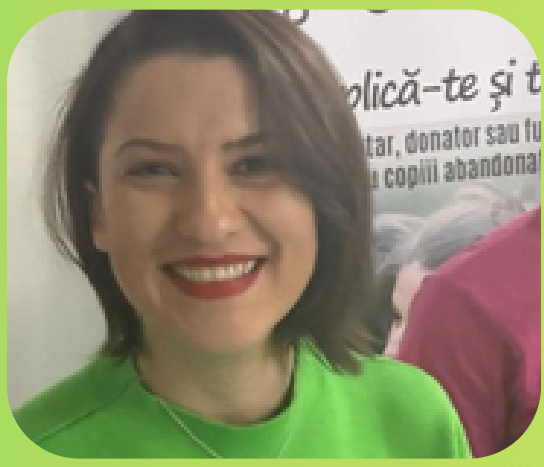
Ajungem MARI Supporters

COORDINATORS

Gabriela Donose is a mountain of energy and generosity.
Accordingly, she has also taken on the role of volunteer coordinator in Sibiu and is actively involved in fundraising activities, proving that the desire for something better can change destinies.

"I learned from the children that a hug and a smile are sure remedies for a great many problems. From the Ajungem MARI team I learned that the power of a community can make seemingly impossible things achievable. "

Gabi Donose, - Volunteer and Local Coordinator Sibiu



"Am chose to become an Ajungem Mari volunteer 4 years ago because I felt I could do more than just listen to stories about children in the social care system.
When you sign up for this volunteering you are optimistic, you think you'll go and wipe their sadness away, but then you realize that they need a present person, someone who stays close to them, encourages them, appreciates them

In fact, I feed off all the volunteering activity because I am addicted to these children..."

Gabriela Anghel,Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Dolj



You feel an extraordinary sense of fulfillment because volunteering is not only about giving, but is, above all, about what you receive.

I am extremely moved every time I think about the achievements of those I helped prepare for their Biology Baccalaureate exam. Among them all, I cannot help but mention a boy from Botoșani, whom I prepared online during the pandemic. He got 9.30 in Biology at the Baccalaureate and I encouraged him to apply for university too. He is now a 4th year student at the Veterinary Medicine Faculty in Iași.

Oana Ristea - Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Buzău



Ajungem MARI Supporters

COORDINATORS

"Ajungem MARI means to me, to the children, to our volunteer team, a team and that smaller family of friends. It is the family you retreat to when things get harder, those friends who love you even when you make mistakes, who stand by you in the good times but especially in the hard ones, who always have a kind word for the children and a hug when needed, friends who go home and keep thinking about what more they could do, how they could help more, where they could ask for help."

Simona Ștefănescu
Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Bucharest



"Staying in volunteering means continuing to be myself. That is the lifeline of my existence.
Our time on earth should not be measured in hours and years, but in good deeds and the people who remain by our side.

Looking back at all my volunteering activity and taking stock of myself as a person, I believe I have grown a great deal, that I have reached a high level of understanding of human nature and empathy, of involvement, out of the desire to make a change."

Mihaela Vulpe
Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Bucharest



"Por me, success is the fact that I manage to interact with a child, to make them stay close to me and learn something. When a child says «Aha, done, I understand!», I know the seed has taken hold. The rest will develop in time

A child is a person — only age makes them a child. And then you have to treat them with respect. If you come here only for yourself, you will give up quickly. If you come to give, you will stay."

Cristian Teniță
Volunteer and Volunteer Coordinator Bucharest



Ajungem MARI Supporters

THE FUNDRAISERS

In 2025, 114 fundraising pages were created on the Galantom platform, generating 1,081 donations for Ajungem Mari projects. Fundraisers either donated their birthday, asking friends to donate instead of giving gifts, or participated in running events, or played Santa Claus for children in the care system.

With the support of fundraisers and donors, therapy sessions, vocational courses, purchases of educational materials, outings and trips were made possible — https://ajungemmari.galantom.ro/.

"As every year, for my birthday I do NOT want gifts for myself, but I wish, with your help, to help the young people and children in foster care centers. This year I want to raise money to help the young people leaving the institutionalized system to become "grown-ups".
It is the most beautiful gift: the joy of knowing you have contributed to a better future for someone who needs you."

Ilinca Sibișteanu, Ajungem Mari Fundraiser





For Ion Badea, fundraising came naturally, out of the desire to do more. It started with a birthday turned into a campaign, and he ended up sending children to camps and supporting therapy and vocational counseling sessions for those who needed them.
Through the generosity of friends, I even sent 4 children to camp. In another year I got a graphics tablet for a young person who drew phenomenally and dreamed of such a device.

Ion Badea, fundraiser Ajungem Mari

The main projects supported were: psychotherapy for vulnerable children and young people, vocational courses and vocational counseling for young people about to leave the care system.

Ajungem MARI Supporters

THE DONORS

In 2025, the Ajungem MARI donor community continued to support the children and young people in the programme through hundreds of gestures of solidarity and involvement for which we are extremely grateful.

We recorded 1,079 donations through the Galantom platform for psychotherapy, vocational courses, support for young people and educational activities. During the Swimathon campaign, donors managed to send 36 institutionalized young people to independent living preparation camps.

Also in 2025, 400 people chose to donate via SMS, 550 through the organization's website, and a further 170 supporters contributed by bank transfer.

Every donation represented real opportunities for children and adolescents: educational support, psychotherapy, development activities and experiences that give them more confidence in the future.

"I started as a volunteer at Ajungem MARI and I saw first-hand how much every activity, every outing and every hour spent with the children matters. After I finished volunteering, I chose to stay close as a donor, because I know the real impact these programmes can have on their lives."

— Constantin, donor at the Christmas fair

"When I found out what some of the children in the programme go through, I understood that it is not enough just to offer them school supplies or nice activities. Many need to be helped to heal their fears, traumas and the feeling that they are alone. That is why I choose to support monthly psychotherapy sessions — because every child deserves the chance to feel safe and to believe in themselves again."

- Daniela, donatoare website recurent

"I chose to support Ajungem MARI because I saw how much consistency matters for children in centers. The fact that they have volunteers who encourage them and believe in them can completely change the course of a child's life."

- Adina, donatoare SMS recurent

"Childhood should be full of laughter, discoveries and beautiful memories. Through this donation, I wish to give these children an unforgettable day — a story lived on the big screen and a warm meal to bring them joy. I believe in the power of experiences that inspire, that bring smiles and give little ones the confidence that the world can be a beautiful place. Thank you to Asociația Ajungem Mari for being by their side and for making this magic possible."

- Timea, donatoare pe platforma Galantom

Ajungem MARI Supporters

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

We are grateful for the support of the over 120 companies who believed in the future of our children, and for the partners who have consistently been by our side. At the same time, we know that 2025 was a difficult year for many who would have wished to contribute. We thank them for staying close and hope that next year will allow us to continue this essential support together.

For over 10 years, United Way Romania has been part of the Ajungem MARI story.



Empathy is not just about feeling what another person feels, but about doing something concrete as a result of that feeling.

The collaboration with Ajungem MARI is a good one precisely because of the shared values and genuine dedication to the cause of vulnerable children and young people.
The team has vision, professionalism and an authentic concern for the well-being of children in the care system. It is a collaboration that for almost 10 years has been building real opportunities for children who, without these interventions, would have had limited chances.

Corina Dobă,
Community Engagement Coordinator la United Way Romania

For over 6 years, LSEG Foundation has been part of the Ajungem MARI story.



Educdcation is one of the main pillars when we talk about the mission of the LSEG Foundation. Institutionalized children face significant challenges and we want to be by their side to help them discover their potential and develop into independent adults. It is our duty to contribute to the creation of a fairer and more compassionate world.
We are proud to be partners of Ajungem MARI and will continue to support these efforts with dedication, confident that every action in favor of education can change lives and bring a better future for all.

Larisa Basica, Project Manager LSEG

Ajungem MARI Supporters

THOSE WHO SPREAD THE WORD

We thank everyone who contributed to spreading our call for volunteers and helped us attract 1,000 new Ajungem MARI volunteers or promote our projects. Whether they amplified the message through TV, radio, print media and interviews, passed it on to colleagues, employees or friends, or got directly involved — distributing flyers at events or speaking in the media — every gesture counted.







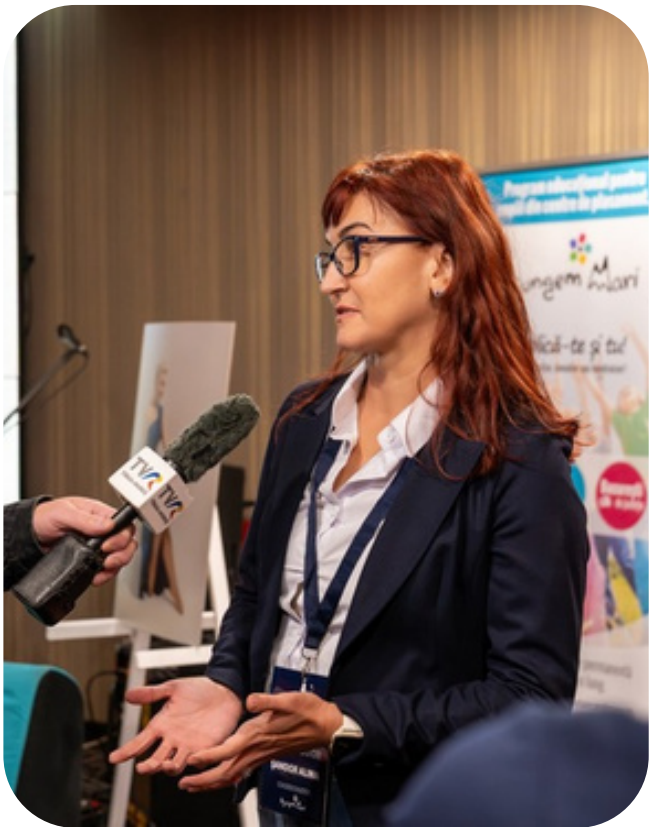


Ajungem Mari

Ajungem MARI Supporters

THOSE WHO SPREAD THE WORD











Ajungem MARI Supporters

ACTORS WHO GAVE VOICE TO CHILDREN'S STORIES

Over 30 actors responded to the invitation to give voice to the stories of young people in the care system, as part of the Living Museum of Empathy project. These are stories that continue to be transformed through the involvement of volunteers and the people who open up new opportunities for them.

Some of the actors also participated in the two Empathy Talks events, where they were impressed by the ambition and perseverance of the young people who had the courage to tell their own stories in a small setting full of empathy and respect. We thank them for lending their voice so that more people can understand the impact they can have and choose to get involved.



Ajungem MARI Supporters

ACTORS WHO GAVE VOICE TO CHILDREN'S STORIES





Ajungem Mari

FINANCIAL RESULTS



Financial Results

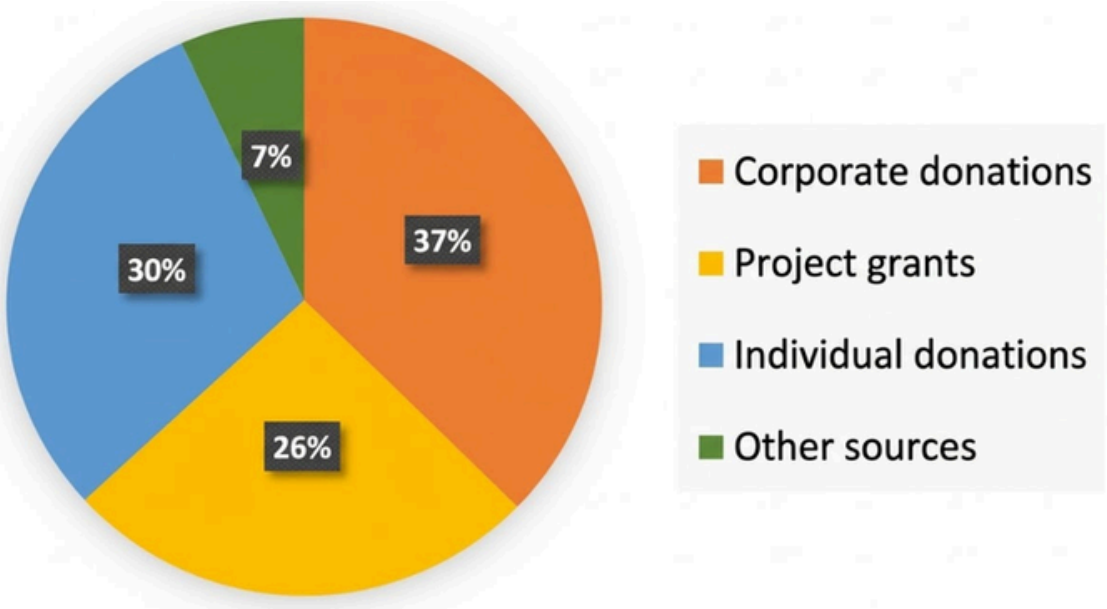
2025 REVENUES - 4.410.817 RON

The main sources of funding during 2025 were company sponsorships through the 20% mechanism (profit tax redirection), grants received from companies and large NGOs for specific projects, donations via online platforms and funds raised at charitable events, as well as income from individuals through the 3.5% mechanism (salary income tax redirection).

Pe parcursul anului 2025, through the 20% mechanism, we managed to raise funds that will secure activities at national level in 2026 and will allow us to expand our activities and meet the needs of institutionalized children and young people with projects and solutions specially created for them.

We thank the volunteers who got involved in local events and in the Form 230 completion campaign, through which they mobilized the community! Funds raised in each county are allocated to that respective county.

We are extremely grateful to all those who believed in our cause and helped, through sponsorships, donations and participation in our events!

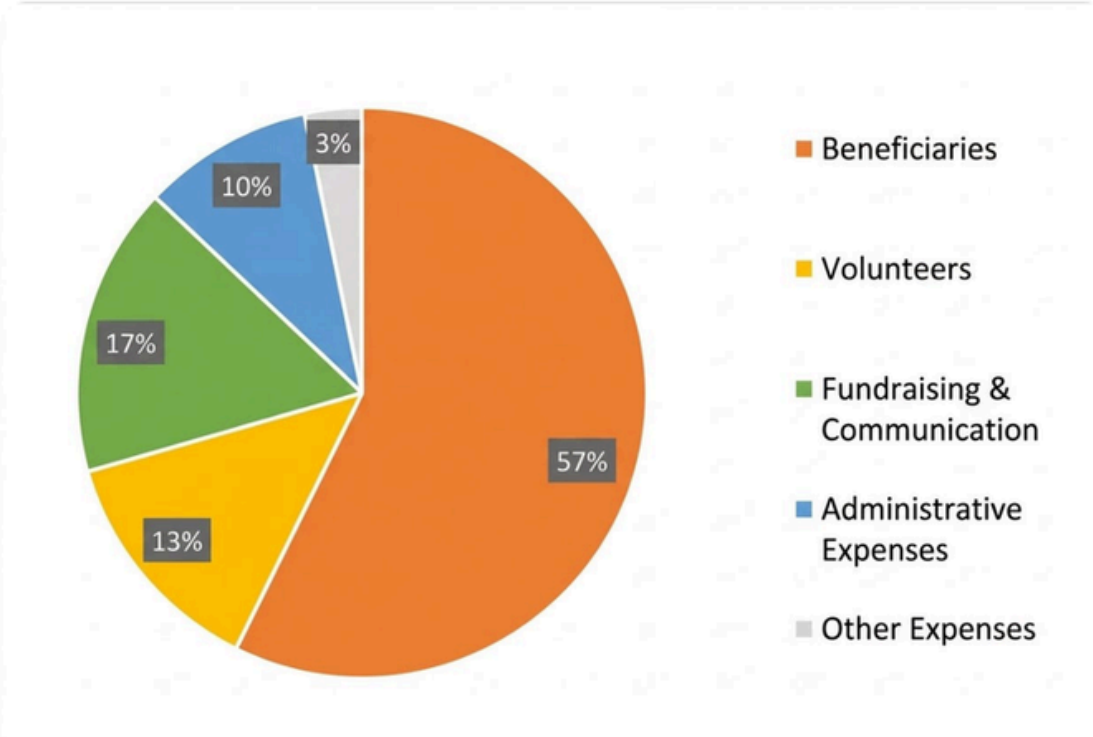


Financial Results

2025 EXPENSES — 3,984,027 RON

Ponderea cea mai mare a expenditure in 2025 was directed towards supporting as many beneficiaries as possible through as many activities as possible: homework help, workshops, educational materials, psychotherapy, outings, trips, camps, vocational courses, grants for young people, qualification courses, vocational counseling and independent living support upon leaving the care system.

Likewise, the volunteering project, with everything it entails — campaign promotion, recruitment, selection, training sessions, document signing and assignment to children, intermediate training and support, volunteer materials, operational expense reimbursement — constitutes a significant share of the funds used, as we want every volunteer in the programme to be well prepared and motivated to consistently help children each year.



How can you get involved?

DONATE — ONLINE

Visit the website and donate using your bank card

https://www.ajungemmari.ro/implica-te/doneaza/

DONATE — BANK TRANSFER

Asociaţia Lindenfeld
UniCredit, Pţa. Traian branch
RO10 BACX 0000 0012 8851 7000
CIF: 32059804

DONATE - SMS

SEND AN SMS TO 8864 WITH THE TEXT “IUBIRE” and donate €4/month for psychotherapy.

DONATE - PAYPAL

Donate using your bank card via PAYPAL

REDIRECT 3,5%

Visit the website, complete it online, download and trimite Formularul 230.

20% SPONSORSHIP

Download our sponsorship agreement de sponsorizare.

https://www.ajungemmari.ro/directioneaza/



FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT US AT: WWW.AJUNGEMMARI.RO

Every child in the care system needs someone who believes in them!



THANK YOU!

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