

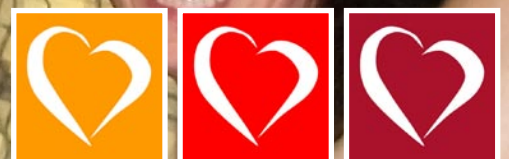
HandiCapabil

Magazine about a workshop for people with handicaps

www.ateliere-protejate.org

Nr. 12, October 2011

*“Doing good deeds
for our neighbor”*



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Dear readers,

In this edition of our newsletter we invite you to take a quick trip through the last four months of our activities.

We warmly welcome you and want you to get to know the newest member of our staff, Anamaria Isabella, social worker, along with two delightful beneficiaries of our project: Roxana and Ileana. At any minute of the day, these two young ladies are known for their warm smiles with which they greet every person who crosses the threshold of our workshop.

Inside this edition we will also describe our activities from the most recent months as well as plans for the immediate future.

As I've said many times in the past, and at the risk of repeating myself, I can attest to the fact that the work we carry out would not be possible without the involvement the many people who surround us, people who with no material motivation, often take our hand and help us to walk a little further down the road. So, thank you from the bottom of our hearts to our benefactors, both well-known and lesser-known.

With warm thoughts, I greet you on behalf of the whole team,

Cristina Ciubotaru

Asociatia Ateliere Protejate

Str. Secerisului nr. 15

041272 Bucuresti, sect. 4

Tel: 0040 21 3323330

Fax: 0040 21 3323330

Mobil: 0040 726 933753

Email: info@ateliere-protejate.org

Web: www.ateliere-protejate.org



A year of partnering with Kern Liebers

Time is on our side this time and that fact is evident in connection with the opportunity to work with this important worldwide company, Kern-Liebers. Present in 50 locations around the world, their renown is well deserved: achieving the highest standards of quality products in the automotive, textile and medical industries.

We're happy to play a small role in this big business since the activity that we do at the workshop is very efficient in meeting our needs for occupational therapy as we serve these young people with disabilities. Twelve months of intense activity have past including daily progress oftentimes accompanied by joy. Is that a lot or a little?

The apparently simple task of arranging thin textile needles in a container is a repetitive activity that requires constant attention, patience, perseverance and new challenges. Our young people are fond of saying, „With patience you can cross the sea!” Development in this activity is rewarded both materially and through the motivation of feeling useful.

It's worth mentioning the positive influence of globalization in the support of vulnerable people, as they learn to value their competencies which are far too often overlooked by an indifferent society.

Beyond the economic aspect of the activity, which is necessary for the maintenance of our project, this form of physical therapy contributes to the development of abilities on a personal level, and also leads to better social integration.

So, we thank Kern-Liebers for trusting in us and we appreciate the fact that you have overcome the barriers of discrimination and indifference! We hope that your example will inspire other companies to the ideals of tolerance, acceptance and integration.

(An employee with KL stated that the activity of the young people at the Workshop is very good and useful, “they really work!” And it helps them develop various capacities and feel useful.)



The summer of 2011

This year, at the beginning of July we went on vacation to the seaside in Eforie Nord. We would like to thank the owners of Casa Nanu for giving us their warm accommodation. We enjoyed our vacation days walking, especially when the weather was not good for going on the beach. Although we did not have many hot days, we enjoyed this opportunity to visit Eforie Nord and the attraction points in Constanta: the Dolphins' Aquarium, where we saw the three playful dolphins, a small corner of the Danube Delta where we saw a lot of wild animals, the Aquarium with all kinds of fish and the Planetarium, where we saw the stars. It was "a wonderful experience" as Claudiu, our beneficiary told us.

After the vacation days are over, we returned fresh to our workshop. Although there were really hot days, we continued our usual activities in the workhouse eight hours a day and we started getting ready the candles which will light the houses on Christmas.

This summer has brought some changes in our workshop thanks to our sponsors Strassenengel Boxberg Association, Germany and Paulico Association and Mrs Marialaura Ciampoli-Musneci and Ceban Victor family. Because we were helped by people with skilled hands and big hearts we succeeded to improve a little our building and the surroundings.

With the help of Mrs. Marialaura Ciampoli-Musneci, as well as Sava family we renovate the bathrooms and a corner of our workshop by glazing the walls.



The summer of 2011

With the support of Ceban Victor family and of Sava family we renewed the fence and the gate, and the workshop's main entrance door was replaced with an insulating door. These changes were good. Now, our new fence changes the environment and the new door keeps the heat better inside.

At the end of this summer, a marathon for the autistic people was organized in Izvor Park. This event was organized with the purpose of informing the community about our group of special people. I was glad when I saw that after I told our beneficiaries about this event and what is an autistic person, they gladly wanted to participate. Because we want to be close to the autistic persons ,although we ran we did not win but we were glad that we were together.

The hot days of summer have passed and we remained only with the memories. Now we are enjoying the chilly days of autumn and we are preparing for the future.

We respectfully thank everybody that helped us this summer so that our plans could be accomplished professionally. We hope that the help received will be rewarded at the right time.



I am Ana (employee) ...

... and I'm involved at this workshop as a social worker since here I find heavenly calm and the sun's smile even when outside or in our soul it is raining. Why is that? Our youth clear the atmosphere with their unique, unmatched charm.

I am here because I followed the ideal of helping people, a purpose which has guided me from childhood. My motivation to support those with difficulties was large enough to lead me to choose to study Sociology and Social Work at the University of Bucharest. In this way, theoretical preparations stimulated my interest in knowing more clearly how to put my profession into practice. I am enthusiastic about this great opportunity to stand beside those with disabilities. I'm amazed to see that they are at the same time full of goodness and innocence- riches which are quickly disappearing from society.

My internal motivation, perseverance to believe in what is beautiful, in the power of good are values which light my life since nothing can compare with the joy of knowing that you made someone's life better!

Anamaria Isabella Simion, social worker



I am Ileana (beneficiary),

... I've been working at the shop for a pretty long time, since 2009.

I came to the workshop with my father and I loved the candles and said to myself: "I'd like to have those at home."

Now at the workshop I love the fact that I get to see my co-workers, to put clothes in the washing machine and to eat the great food here: it's really good!!!

The music I listen to here helps me to work with more heart. In the future I'd like to visit many places with my colleagues because I adore going places.

Outside of our shop, I love very much to sing, to dance to imitate animals and to help my mother with cleaning and many other activities. My favorite song is 'I Have a Dream' by Abba. Finally, I wish that everyone's dream would come true!

I am Roxana (beneficiary),

... I'm 24 years old. "I like to go to the park with my friends, to play badminton, to do cleaning... and also I love good music, but not manele music," said the young lady with a smile.

Roxana came to the workshop 5 years ago and recognizes that during this period of time she has seen positive changes in her life. "I've changed for the good. At home I wasn't doing anything. I like it that I've made friends, done lessons, and I'm happy to converse with the other employees. I've learned to prepare food and to clean. Most of all I like to make candles and to arrange needles."

In addition, Roxana loves her time at the Association and she'd like to see the workshop grow so that other young people could come there. "At home I didn't have an occupation, but here I feel good!" More than that, she values the moments spent here in a special way, having a fruitful activity through her exemplary hard work.

Beyond her evident qualities such as: responsibility, perseverance, honesty, goodness, etc., Roxana identified several areas that she'd like to improve, "I'd like to learn to write, to read and to speak better."

Her thought for all people with disabilities is "to have faith in themselves, to get to know more people and to join activities like ours."

Even though she faces difficulties, they don't steal Roxana's smile which lights up her face. Her thought for others is this: People should be kind to one another and help each other. Sometimes, people aren't like that...

... so, let's remember as often as possible that we as people should help each other!

(I was enchanted at the idea of telling her story in the form of an interview. I observed her large smile, the peaceful face which indicated to me her agreement in being "interviewed," a word which made her very enthusiastic!)



Christmas Market

2 - 4 December 2011

The Christmas Market, the event that already became a tradition, will open their gates at the beginning of December. We will wait for you to prepare with us the warm celebration of Christmas. We will greet you with the well known fragrance of cinnamon and with a lot of presents for you to offer to your friends.

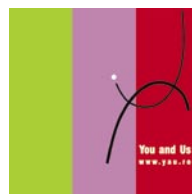
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Associations

Strassenengel from Germany
and Paulico from Netherlands



Next edition Nr. 13 will appear in february 2012