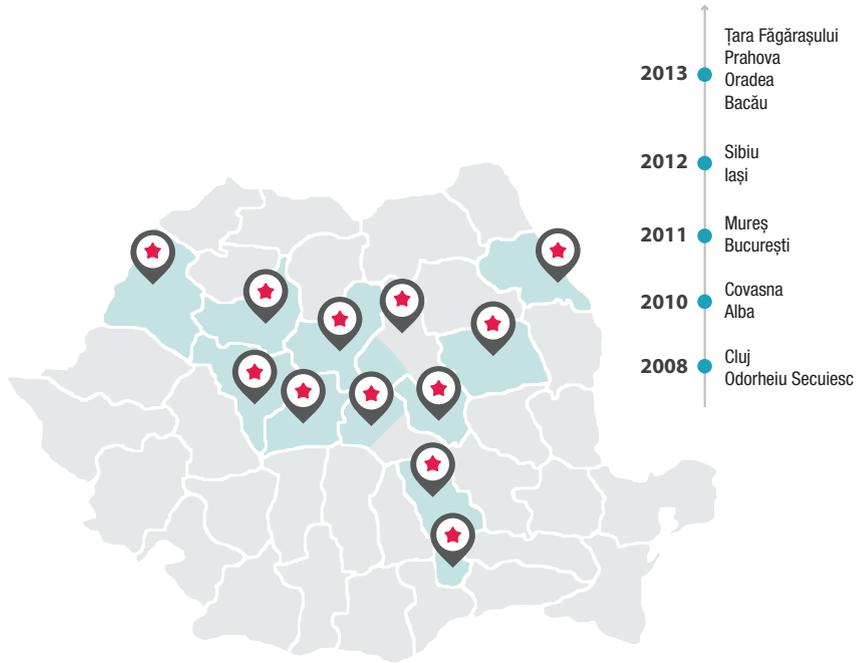




2013

Active and Generous Communities







**35%**  
 of total population

In Romania, the first two community foundations were established six years ago in Cluj and Odorheiu Secuiesc. The number of community foundations increased so that by the end of 2013 there were 12 active community foundations (see for more details see the map and chronology above).

In 2012 the Romanian Federation of Community Foundations was established. Its role is to represent the community foundations and to support the development of philanthropy at a national level.

The 2013 report presents the framework, actors, and results of the National Program supporting the development of community foundations in Romania. The program was initiated by the Association for Community Relations and had two stages so far: 2006-2008 and 2009-2013. The program is now in its third stage and benefits from the expertise and involvement of the existing community foundations. Starting with 2012, the Romanian Federation of Community Foundations became a strategic partner of the National Program.

## Community Foundations:

- contribute to the transformation of local communities, so that those communities reach their development potential, based on their aspirations, resources and opportunities.
- help to building active, generous, and connected communities, with an increasing quality of life.
- develop funds starting from donor concerns and invest the funds in their communities by offering grants and scholarships.
- support the non-profit organizations, imitative groups, and individuals from their areas, so that they implement projects in various fields, such as education, culture, environmental protection, and youth development.
- establish an important connection between donors and local needs, between people and causes and ensure that donations have visible results.
- take initiative in developing dialogue and collaborative platforms so that communities' needs and opportunities are identified.

# Contents

<b>Contents</b>	1
<b>Introduction</b>	
Active and generous communities	2
<b>Community Foundations</b>	5
Alba Community Foundation	6
Bacău Community Foundation	8
Bucharest Community Foundation	10
Cluj Community Foundation	12
Covasna Community Foundation	14
Iași Community Foundation	16
Mureș Community Foundation	18
Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation	20
Oradea Community Foundation	22
Prahova Community Foundation	24
Sibiu Community Foundation	26
Țara Făgărașului Community Foundation	28
<b>The National Program for the development of Community Foundations</b>	30
<b>Program partners and supporters</b>	33

# 2013

## Active and Generous Communities

7,011,702 Romanians who have access to a community foundation (35% of the total population)

481,314 USD provided in grants and scholarships in 2013

51,303 Supporters of the activities of the Community Foundations, especially the users of community card in Covasna, Mureş and Odorheiu Secuiesc.

1,559 Volunteers involved directly by the community foundations in community initiatives.

321 Projects financed by community foundations

174 Scholarships awarded by the community foundations

53 Community projects implemented by community foundations

12 Active community foundations

4 Community foundations established in 2013

2 Regional funds in Reghin and Cristuru Secuiesc.



### Why establishing community foundations in Romania?

Eight years ago, during the pilot phase of the community foundations program, that was the key question we felt we needed to answer. Based on the international experience with community foundations we wanted to show what was the potential role such foundations could play in the Romanian context. It goes without saying that some of those roles we could only partially understand, while another part was simply hypothetical at that specific moment.

Now, the Romanian community foundations movement has reached twelve community foundations and each of these foundations has a specific experience within its community. I think that this is a good moment to return to the initial question and to reflect on it, relying on the experience the community foundations have gathered.

I was inspired to do so by the reflections of several of the community foundations leaders, whom I had asked several questions about the role of the foundations, the reactions of the local donors, partners and beneficiaries of community foundations, some of whom I had met during the international visit in September 2013. In 2013 Romania

hosted an international study visit organized by C.S. Mott Foundation, an important global supporter of community foundations. We had the opportunity to hear the reflections of the practitioners and researchers in this field who were coming from Central and Eastern Europe, South Africa and the USA.

### It's really possible and it's possible to do it well!

The first campaign that stimulated the development of community foundations started from the idea "If you want to do good, do it well." The second campaign addressed those who "wanted to turn good deeds into a life-style." Both slogans touch upon essential aspects of the activity of community foundations. Doing good through involvement in community can generate excellent and durable results if those involved are consistent, learn from one year's or one event's experience, and apply what has been learned in current and future practice. The second important aspect is that the community foundation's activities need to be well organized, and to have quality management that offers a useful, interesting, and pleasant experience for those who are involved in donating or building successful community initiatives.

Consistency and a quality management are essential in building and sustaining trust within community. After each activity, participants can ask and receive information about what happened next and can find new ways to increase their involvement. Following a successful event, the community waits impatiently for the next event it can be part of.

The community foundations support those people from the community who are generous and responsible and who search for a credible framework through which they can get involved and where their involvement brings visible results. We find such people within each community throughout Romania, although they may not be visible because they do not want publicity or have not found yet an organized framework for action. It is also possible that there are not yet sufficient resources and support so that their involvement had a visible impact. Or, maybe they do not trust the idea that the actions of a single person could contribute positively to community life.

Community foundations offer the space for that trust to be re-built, for those generous and involved people to approach others who are similar, so that on the long term the motivation to continue to be generous and involved is maintained. Due to such leaders, other people from the community have contact with involvement opportunities, see the positive effects involvement brings about and, in return, become interested to be engaged. A virtuous circle is created and stereotypes like 'we cannot do it,' 'it's not up to us,' or 'we do not care about each other' are one by one, being dismantled.



The testimonies of participants taking part in community foundations' programs that are presented in this report say, in various forms, the same thing: 'through my involvement I discovered that together we can do much more than I initially had hoped for. Now I know it is possible. Now I know it depends on me and on those around me.' The most common reaction we encountered



in the study visit of the international practitioners was the following: the community foundations movement in Romania has a positive attitude, where the accent falls on the full part of the glass, on what can be built and on what can be realized. It is not an unrealistic attitude; community foundations understand well the existing challenges, as well as the costs for building community capacity. Nevertheless, as they are positioned to have a long term perspective, they realize that at any given time a step in the right direction can be made, even if many more steps are necessary. It is a fresh attitude that is probably also connected to the young age of the community foundations, but an attitude that deserves to be maintained as much as possible, because based on it, those who want to be involved in their community can unite their enthusiasm and optimism with that coming from the community foundations' teams.

The act of giving and receiving, of uniting efforts with others motivated by the same ideals, as well as the satisfaction that one's efforts have been useful become part of the everyday practices.

Challenges continue to exist at the level of sustainability and resources that the foundations can invest in supporting the

understanding of local needs and identifying potential solutions. There are also challenges related to the way in which community foundations can stimulate and support, together with donors and partners, the talents, resources, and development within vulnerable groups.

Thinking about how to address the above-mentioned challenges is important. That is why the communities of generous, active, and concerned people the foundations bring together are relevant. We believe that these communities of involved people will find solutions for the challenges of the future, as their broader communities increase their resources, strength, and impact.

*I believe that community foundations offer people a lot of hope that is currently missing and offers them opportunities to be involved in creating the change they wish for.*



**Bitia Zerbes**, Board President,  
Cluj Community Foundation

*Members of community need to re-gain the trust that together they can change things around themselves, that they can have a nicer life based on their own efforts. The community foundation is that catalyzer that helps community to trust itself.*



**Ciprian Ciocan**, Executive Director,  
Sibiu Community Foundation

## Not just a few initiatives, but a national movement

2013 was an important year for the national movement of community foundations. Once with the establishment of four new foundations in Bacău, Oradea, Prahova, and Țara Făgărașului, the national coverage reached 35% of the population. The local initiatives of each of the foundations are extremely important, but what strengthens the community foundations' movement is collaboration. Successful initiatives from one area can be a source of ideas and inspiration for other areas. Information exchange and sharing expertise decreases innovation costs at the level of the movement. Those who enter the network have access to what has already been built. Continuity in relationships and active participation in joint activities are just as important for the community of foundations as they are for local communities. The existence of national organizations that continuously support the community foundations offers the necessary settings for exchanging experiences and for developing joint national programs.



These aspects will be visible in the way each of the foundations is presented in this report. Among the programs and funds of several of the foundations, you will find initiatives like YouthBank funds, events of the type swim, run, or bike for your community, giving circles, community card, or scholarships programs. These are ideas that can be adapted to the local context and where local inhabitants participate with enthusiasm. Community foundations are closely linked to the local contexts and the diversity of the approaches and projects becomes an important resource at the level of the national network of community foundations.

**Alina Porumb,**  
Community Foundations Program Director  
Association for Community Relations

*Alina Porumb*

*In 2013 the Romanian community foundations have doubled the value of their grant-making funds and started to become a voice in what regards support for local projects. We increase the number of organizations, as energy, and as experience in supporting our communities. I am proud to be a part of this pioneering movement that I strongly believe will change the face of our communities.*

**Alina Kasprovski,** Executive Director,  
Bucharest Community Foundation



*Only by creating a united community we will manage to evolve at a county and national level, to offer a more beautiful and normal life to our children! It is important to restore real and normal values in what is now a more and more confused society. This can be done only by providing an example and through diversity in unity. The community foundation is one of the few efficient mechanisms through which projects that are really valuable for community are implemented, having a long-term impact. It is very important that in 2013 four new and enthusiastic community foundations joined the national movement and that Oradea is among them. In addition, an important step forward is that the four foundations joined the Romanian Federation of Community Foundations.*

**Luminița Popa,** Board Vice-president,  
Oradea Community Foundation

*In 2013 the movement became truly national. It surpassed that critical moment where it now covers a sufficiently large geographical area and undertakes and implements sufficiently large funding programs. The movement starts to be relevant and surely can no longer be ignored.*

**Ciprian Ciocan,** Executive Director,  
Sibiu Community Foundation



# Community Foundations





www.fundatiacomunitaraalba.ro

*Alba Community Foundation offers support and trust for the new generation and for the community. It unites energies and channels resources for a change for the better.*

### YouthBank: active youth for community

In 2013 Alba Iulia YouthBank team built a grant-making fund based on the activities they proposed and implemented. Funds were mobilized through events such as the YouthBank Ball, 1st of December event, and Saint Nicholas and Santa Claus events. From this fund 10 youth initiatives were supported with a total amount of \$6,897. The financed initiatives include events in various areas such as: theatre, journalism, promoting reading, discovering the community, and promoting sports, a healthy life-style, and optimism. During five years of activity, YouthBank Alba Iulia financed 47 projects, with a total value of \$20,162.



*YouthBank is the perfect definition for friendship, adventure, and project organizing and implementation. YB gives you the chance to grow, to know yourself better, and to develop from all perspectives. It gives you the chance to present your ideas, having the guarantee that at a certain moment they will become reality. YB encourages you to be a human being and to be a volunteer.*

**Carmina Jibertean,**  
Alumna, YouthBank Alba

*I chose to support YB feeling that there are not many opportunities out there for youth, that there are not enough situations where they are really supported. I am happy I did it; they did not disappoint me. I will continue to support them.*

**Anica Ancău,**  
General Director, Ancău Company SRL

Projects financed by the end of 2013:	42	Total value:	\$23,169	Projects financed in 2013:	16	Total value:	\$9,905
Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:	33	Total value:	\$2,770	Scholarships awarded in 2013:	22	Total value:	\$1,714
Community projects implemented by the end of 2013:	24	Total value:	\$24,369	Community projects implemented in 2013:	8	Total value:	\$11,199
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$50,308</b>	<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$22,817</b>



### Your future starts today!

'Your future starts today!' is a program belonging to Alba Community Foundation and designed to support the young ones in their education, life-long learning, and in acquiring entrepreneurial skills. The aim of the program is to support youth to finish their studies and facilitate a better insertion in the labor market.

### The Genius Fund for Talent

The Genius Fund has a total value of \$3,116. The amount was raised by organizing two Dinners for Community with the aim of supporting talented youth with scholarship.

### The Culture Fund

The Fund for Culture aims to support new cultural initiatives coming from NGOs in the area served by the Foundation. In 2013 five projects were financed, having a total value of \$3,007. The projects covered aspects such as promoting traditions, theater plays, a contemporary art camp, and an experimental archeology project.



### Community involvement

Alba Community Foundation is a member of the STATUS Alba Iulia working group, a program for shaping an integrated agenda for urban development. Also, the Foundation joined the campaign 'The Gendarmerie 101' aimed at promoting safety in schools. The activity of Alba Community Foundation was recognized at the Alba County Volunteering Gala 2013 where it receiving six prizes.





Fundația  
Comunitară  
Bacău

www.fundatiacomunitarabacau.ro

# With enthusiasm for community!

*Our aim is to build together a strong community! Bacău Community Foundation unites the community. It unites people and people, needs and resources, aims and means. It stimulates local cooperation and engagement. It attracts funds from individual donors and companies and disburses them transparently towards philanthropic causes from Bacău County.*

Bacău Community Foundation was legally registered in 2013 starting with an important vision, appreciating each person from the community as an important resource and as sharing a strong enthusiasm. Already in its first year of activity, the Foundation managed to support 13 projects in areas such as education (seven projects), social inclusion (four project), arts and culture, and environment.



### Swimathon 2013

One of the successful ways in which the Foundation managed to mobilize the community in supporting local projects was the first edition of the Swimathon. The event was developed starting from the experience of Cluj Community Foundation that organized its first Swimathon in 2009.

In Bacău, the Foundation and the other eight supported local initiatives managed to mobilize through the Swimathon 12 teams, 68 swimmers, 187 individual donors,

as well as several sponsors, all together contributing \$26,209.

### The Pambac Fund for Scholarships

The Fund has a total value of \$9,503 and offers scholarships for education, for excellence, supporting also talents in the areas of music, dance, and theatre, too.

<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$26,084</b>
<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$12,842</b>
<b>Community projects implemented in 2013:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>48</b>		<b>\$38,926</b>



### The performance lampions

Together with the National College Gheorghe Vrănceanu, the Foundation organized an event aimed at mobilizing funds. High school students performed a theatre play and the over 250 spectators had the opportunity to show their support by taking part in a lampion auction. The event raised \$9,769 for upgrading the high school's IT lab.



### YouthBank Bacău

13 high school students were part of YouthBank Bacău in 2013. They took part in training sessions for learning how to fundraise and have managed to mobilize funds, contributing with 50% of the total value of the YouthBank fund, i.e.: \$4,985. The fund will support youth initiatives in 2014.



*Each of us has qualities that we can use, express, and offer as gifts to our community. A community is more than a geographical or administrative area. The community is us, those who build day by day, responsibly and involved, a place we call 'home.' The achievement of the year for Bacău Community Foundation is connecting to the people from our community, involved people holding a vision, people we did not have the privilege to meet before.*

**Mihai Căprioară**, Executive Director,  
Bacău Community Foundation



[www.fundatiacomunitarabucuresti.ro](http://www.fundatiacomunitarabucuresti.ro)

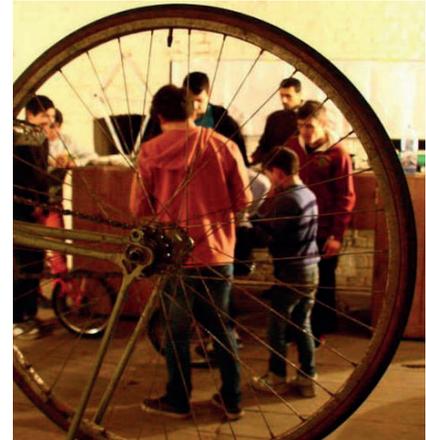
*We invest the time, money, and energy of the people living in Bucharest in order for them to feel at home!*

### The Mega Image for Community Fund

Bucharest Community Foundation and the Delhaize Group have launched the Mega Image for Community Fund with a total value of \$31,160. The following projects are among the 10 financed initiatives: a sports competition organized by the inhabitants of Costeasca neighbourhood, a workshop on how to repair bikes organized for youth from Carol area, an apartment-theatre festival, a community center for the inhabitants from Otopeni, an old photo exhibition aimed at solving alone the common problems in the neighbourhood.



# So that you feel at home in your neighborhood and in your city!



One of the projects was the Mechanics School Bița Color (Colored Bike), the project that also received the appreciation prize of the Mega Image employees. The project brought together youth from the community and from vulnerable groups, youth who are passionate bike users, as well as opinion leaders who could support the youth with practical information about both bike mechanics and life start-up or following one's own dreams. 16 mechanics workshops were organized and 34 young people graduated.

*The fact that we got the grant for the project was a vote of confidence given to our initiative group. We organized ourselves better and quicker and we succeeded in implementing the project more efficiently, having access to the learning resources provided by the Bucharest Community Foundation and to the funding from the Mega Image for Community Fund. If that fund did not exist, I do not believe that we would have succeeded in organizing the Mechanics School at such a high level. For us, the fund was the rod we needed for starting to fish. We've learnt to transform an idea in reality and now we know what we need to do in order to take the project further.*

**Mădălina Opreșan, Bița Color**

Projects financed by the end of 2013:	53	Total value:	\$82,837	Projects financed in 2013:	40	Total value:	\$62,602
<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>\$82,837</b>		<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>\$62,602</b>	

## Swimathon Bucharest 2013

138 swimmers and over 550 generous donors supported 20 projects from Bucharest community and a social case. The event mobilized over \$25,000.



*It was Saturday morning; the sky was blue after a weeklong rainy period, when I counted over 750 participants entering the National Olympic Pool at the first edition of the Bucharest Swimathon. ... people came to swim for a cause they believe in or to support a cause they believe in, all of them, people motivated by the idea of building something together with others. It is amazing how we managed, in just over two months of work, to build a team and such a big event for the communities from Bucharest.*

**Alina Kasprovschi**, Executive Director,  
Bucharest Community Foundation

*For me, taking part in the Swimathon means more than supporting a cause. It means that although it is salty, life does not hold us afloat unless we use well our hands and legs.*

**Alex Tunaru**, blogger, swimmer at the  
Swimathon for PACT Foundation

## Dragoș Nicolaescu Fund

Creative workshops in schools and kindergartens, aptitude-identification activities at the Cireșarii Center for Minors, a story of the puppet theatre team from 'A theatre yet un-invented' company, a project for wool weaving ... all of these were possible due to the birthday fund created by Dragoș Nicolaescu with the support of Bucharest Community Foundation. Besides the financial resource, Dragoș, an entrepreneur and business consultant for vocational start-ups, invested time and expertise to support these projects, as well as many other initiatives that answered the invitation to apply for support for their sustainable development.

*As my mission is vocational entrepreneurship, I wish to support projects that help people live an autonomous and happy life. For that they need to learn and be helped to discover how they can make a living from their passion, how they can live decently doing what they love, in a respectful and dignified way.*

**Dragoș Nicolaescu**

### Time to celebrate involvement in community!

In November 2013, Bucharest Community Foundation celebrated two years since its establishment. In these two years, through the Foundation, donors supported a group of children from Ferentari to explore their dance talent, financed projects designed and implemented by high school youth for their communities, supported the International Literature Festival, the Free Waldorf School, and the publication of the newspaper Good Morning Bucharest. Together with the Foundation, a family, an entrepreneur, an important company, and maybe the youngest donor in Romania have transformed important moments of their lives in occasions to do good for their

*We cannot live outside the communities that surround us. Even if we isolate ourselves in our comfortable homes, because we don't like our flat's stairways, we are continuously obliged to see it every day. A community foundation gathers around those who realized that only together with others they could build a nicer stairway – a nicer life. Building mechanisms for involvement, helping people to have trust, showing that it is possible, community foundations contribute to supporting people in building better communities for themselves.*

**Alina Kasprovschi**, Executive Director,  
Bucharest Community Foundation

community. Also in November, Oliver and Cristina Auerbach, one of the first donors of the Foundation have received the prize 'Generosity that changes lives' at the People for People Gala. The Foundation worked with Oliver and Cristina when they decided to donate for a project all the money received at their wedding, helping them to find the most suitable cause and the best organization for receiving the funds: the program 'Never alone' of the Princess Margareta of Romania Foundation.

Good news came also in 2014 from the Romanian CSR Awards. The Mega Image for Community Fund was awarded the first prize within the category Support for Communities offered by companies with more than 250 employees.



# The joy of generosity and community involvement!

*We connect Cluj's needs and resources in order to improve the lives of Cluj inhabitants. We stimulate community involvement and local initiatives among companies and inhabitants so that Cluj becomes more and more a city where one loves to live, to raise children, or study.*

## Collegium. Excellence in Education

"Robotics optional course" is a project where eight Lego Mindstorm NXT 2.0 robots and 30 tutorials help pupils study math, applying practically abstract theoretical notions. That is one of the projects financed by the "Collegium. Excellence in Education" Fund, that reached in 2013 its third edition. The program is coordinated by Cluj Community Foundation and financed by Electrogrup. The grants, with a total value of \$10,127, are given for implementing technical solutions that contribute to modernizing teaching and learning processes.

*Collegium intends to bring new technologies into schools because we believe that the Romanian educational system is primarily focused on theory, while lacking focus on practice.*

*Iulia Cordea, Communications and Human Resources Manager, Electrogrup SA*



*The purpose of the project is to stir curiosity among pupils and their passion for technology and innovation.*

**Mureșan Mircea,**  
Collegium Program Beneficiary

*It was both fun and interesting for us. We learnt a lot and I wish I had had this opportunity earlier.*

**Mirel Vlad,**  
Collegium Program Beneficiary



## Youth Scholarships and Programs

Cluj Community Foundation supports performance and equality of chances among youth. In 2013, the Foundation has granted 46 scholarships in total value of \$19,770. The YouthBank Cluj team, formed of 14 high school students, managed to finance 9 youth projects with \$7,977. Also in 2013, the Foundation joined the international partnership DeedIn which aims at promoting volunteering among youth.

<b>Projects financed by the end of 2013:</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$273,843</b>	<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$ 75,318</b>
<b>Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$139,108</b>	<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$19,770</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>406</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$412,951</b>	<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$95,088</b>

*We support creativity and look at the educational process in an alternative way. We believe that by investing in youth we can create an important change on the long-term.*

*Simona Șerban, Executive Director,  
Cluj Community Foundation*

### **Swimathon Cluj – the 5th edition**

At the fifth edition of the Cluj Swimathon over 150 swimmers and 600 donors and supporters managed to mobilize resources of over \$31,160 in order to support 15 causes. The event continues to be full of energy as swimmers and supporters are eagerly waiting every year for the event.



*It is incredible to see how the event grew. I think there were more than 1,000 people present here today and this makes us extremely happy. People connect with this event and manage to contribute ... either they swam or they came with their projects, or simply they supported their friends, colleagues, or initiatives they cared about.*

*Simona Șerban, Executive Director,  
Cluj Community Foundation*

*What did I swim for today? In order to buy trees and plant them in the abusively deforested areas or in areas where the forest is missing.*

*Alin Uhlmann-Ușeriu,  
Swimmer for Tășuleasa Social*

### **The Cluj Donor Circle**

Cluj Community Foundation supported in 2013 the organization of two meetings of the Cluj Donor Circle. At the first edition of the Donor Circle resources were mobilized for three projects: for offering medical services for children attending the day-center of the 'Familia Regăsită' Association, for more nature at the Transylvania College, and for promoting the Transylvanian castles and mansions with the help of a team of bloggers.

At the November edition of the Circle, over 60 people managed to mobilize more than \$7,946 (of which \$1,558 in materials and services) in order to support three youth projects. Due to that contribution three teams of young entrepreneurs will benefit from mentorship in order to implement their ideas through the project Step Up, 14 youth will exercise to ACTitued at the School for improvisation, while 17 youth will EduPractice jobs they dream of.



*We try to raise awareness that it is not difficult to donate and that one can donate in a very creative way.*

*Bita Zerbeș, President of the Board, Cluj  
Community Foundation*

*Things are very simple: it is good to do good for community.*

*Rolf de Graaf, Donor,  
Cluj Donor Circle, November 2013*

*People could be together at a Donor Circle and explore together donating for collective social change... it was a magical moment, people were happy to donate. We joined a game of donation pledges and we managed to attract funds for all three projects.*

*Simona Șerban, Executive Director,  
Cluj Community Foundation*

These results were made possible by the active participation of Cluj inhabitants in different ways – swimming at the Swimathon, auctioning for objects-that-cannot-be-bought through InJoy Cluj, supporting youth projects through 'Collegium. Excellence in Education' Fund, through scholarships, YouthBank, social entrepreneurship, or the donor circle.

*What Cluj Community Foundation tries to do is to support people in understanding just how important individual involvement is for the Cluj community.*

*Călin Hințea, Dean, Faculty for Political,  
Administrative and Communication  
Sciences, Babeș-Bolyai University*

*We hope that once we prove successful, other communities will choose to learn from our practice and experience.*

*Gabriel Bădescu, Member of the Board,  
Cluj Community Foundation*



FUNDAȚIA COMUNITARĂ COVASNA

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# Activates the community for a good purpose!

*We improve the lives of inhabitants by mobilizing and developing local resources, in order to support community driven initiatives.*

## The Community Card for an involved community

The Community Card highlights how a local community can provide support through a well-conceived mechanism. Using the card, the client received a 1% bonus from the value of the acquired goods. The same value is invested by the partner companies in community through a fund managed by the Community Foundation. The program is based on a model developed by Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation. In 2013, in Covasna, the success of the community card continued and further expanded, reaching the number of 20,000 users and four partner companies in Sfântu Gheorghe and Târgu Secuiesc. In 2013 more than \$55,000 were mobilized through this mechanism, a 21% increase from the previous year.



## Bike for a good purpose

The bike competition 'Bike for a good purpose' took place on September 13, 2013. The aim was to raise funds for three community initiatives and one initiative proposed by the Foundation. 150 bikers, more than 3,500 km, and more than \$2,800 were brought in support of the four initiatives covering activities related to sports, the environment, youth and the elderly.

<b>Projects financed by the end of 2013:</b>	130	<b>Total value:</b>	\$56,014
<b>Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:</b>	21	<b>Total value:</b>	\$16,890
<b>Community projects implemented by the end of 2013:</b>	30	<b>Total value:</b>	\$32,576
<b>Total</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$105,480</b>

<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	53	<b>Total value:</b>	\$21,356
<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	13	<b>Total value:</b>	\$5,033
<b>Community projects implemented in 2013:</b>	12	<b>Total value:</b>	\$22,736
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$49,125</b>



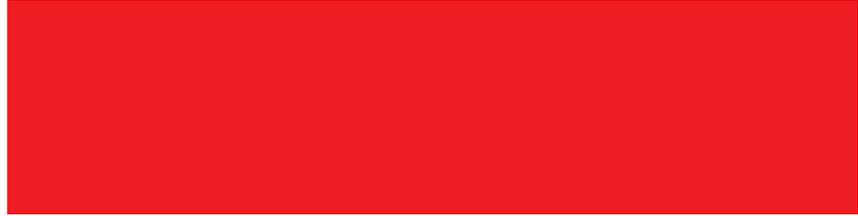
### **An active and healthy community**

Covasna Community Foundation supports community involvement in ameliorating the built environment through creating a fitness park and a playground, together in total value of \$6,869.



### **Youth programs**

In 2013, Covasna Community Foundation granted 12 scholarships for talented youth from the local community. The total value of the scholarships was \$5,033. Also, the Foundation is implementing the local YouthBank program 'Youth for Youth' in Sfântu Gheorghe and Baraolt.



### **A community with initiative**

Covasna Community Foundation implemented in 2013 four grant-making programs, supporting the development of local initiatives. The four programs were: Covasna Brand Name, Youth for Youth, Be Active for Covasna, Not Only a Place on the Map. 51 initiatives were financed through these programs, with a total amount of \$21,356.

Covasna Community Foundation financed also the participation of youth at the national chess championship and at an international violin contest. It also supported three local associations to be established.



*What does the Community Foundation mean to me? It means love for Community and for People. In the last couple of years since the Foundation was established, I have learnt a lot, first of all, about responsible donations. About how many things can be accomplished with very little, when the intention is clean, and when we are ready to work for it. Despite the challenges encountered on the way, I am very satisfied. Every next step fills me up with joy, every accomplishment that brings us closer to a more powerful and more self-confident community. Also, it is a great joy that, in this work, I have the pleasure to work together with people who believe in what they do, and do what they believe in. That is the most important aspect of them all.*

**Kinga Berezcki, Executive Director, Covasna Community Foundation**



*We support community initiative and community spirit for building, in a sustainable way, a better future for Iași and the entire region.*

### Our city, a nicer city

The 'Iași Urban Revitalization Fund' wishes to invest in providing more utility to some of the public spaces in Iași, to generate a positive change through creative interventions and to increase the capacity of citizens to assume initiative in developing the community they belong to. Since its establishment in 2012, the Fund attracted \$6,929. In 2013 two initiatives were financed with the total amount of \$2,648.

*I consider urban space as something that belongs to me; something that I must take care of and I must invest in. In a context where the strength for creating positive change exists, the Fund for Urban Revitalization connects efficiently those who can support and those who can implement. The result consists of teams that can assume the role of a change-maker and projects that transform Iași in a place that becomes easier and easier to fall in love with.*

**Andrei Gheorghiescu, Donor, Coordinator of the Turnul Nostru urban revitalization project**

<b>Projects financed by the end of 2013:</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$34,960</b>	<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$20,073</b>
<b>Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$25,410</b>	<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$16,436</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$60,369</b>	<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$36,508</b>

## Brings together people who move things!



### Projects and scholarships for the future of Iași Community

#### Scholarships

Iași Community Foundation believes in youth and in their role to positively influence, at the present time, as well as in the future, the community they are a part of. In order to support school and extracurricular performance of youth from Iași County, ICF grants two types of scholarships: excellence scholarships and educational scholarships. In 2013, 40 scholarships were awarded, with a total value of \$16,436.

#### YouthBank Iași

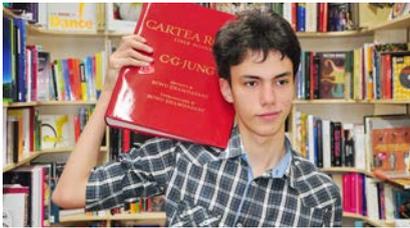
In 2012-2013, YouthBank Iași offered for 13 young people a framework where they could work together and take decisions concerning their community. In that period six projects proposed by high school students were financed with \$3,365.

*YouthBank remains for me, still a simple high school student, a path for launching successful ideas in the local environment and a perfect lesson in social entrepreneurship. The fact that we were financed and then supported in our endeavor helped us to gain the trust of those around in our idea. It offered us the strength to fulfill one of our dreams.*

**Daniel Vasile, Project Leader Bandabeat**

## IQ Iași

IQ Iași Club offers many local opportunities for youth achieving excellence. It invests in the personal and professional development of the future leaders of the community, business leaders or experts. The space of IQ Iași Club is designed as a center with adequate equipment, where performance is stimulated. The Club aims to offer to high school students with good results in the national competitions access to formal and non-formal educational resources, to personal and professional development programs, and also to a socializing environment. 62 champions in national competitions and youth with excellent results are part of the program, while the investment in the Club is currently at \$15,509.



### Your ideas transform Iași

Iași is changing in 2013 again, with the support of Iași Community Foundation. The 'Your Ideas Transform Iași' Fund has the purpose to stimulate and support initiatives that develop civic attitudes and bring a change at the level of collective mentality and behavior. In 2013 two projects were financed with \$3,116.

### Swimathon Iași 2013 – waves that inspire the community

In 2013 Swimathon Iași grew! At the second edition, 1,502 pool-lengths were swum for community and over \$18,696 was mobilized from over 800 supporters and donors for 12 local causes.

*I started early enough to think about the people who could support me and I approached first family members and my closest friends, I continued then with colleagues and acquaintances. I did not always receive a positive answer, but that did not discourage me, on the contrary. On the last 100 meters, I contacted my friends from abroad. I was pleasantly surprised that some of them mobilized, some of them extremely quickly. I had a great feeling at the end of the event when the results were more than I had expected. I see Swimathon as one of the most beautiful things I have done up to now.*

**Sanda Babiuc,**

*Swimmer, Swimathon Iași 2013*

### ICF hosts local initiatives that produce an impact in the community

In 2013 ICF hosted three initiatives: BraveArt, Iași inhabitants want an airport, and CommIT. Brave Art is the first social entrepreneurship initiative in Romania led entirely by youth under 20 years of age. The projects aims to support young artists from Iași, to encourage people from Iași to take care of the environment through recycling, and to demonstrate to the entire community the huge potential of youth.



'Iași inhabitants want an airport' is a project started by an initiative group that realized the importance of an international airport for the economy and the development of Iași.

CommIT aims to develop a digital map of Iași that contains all the needed information for inhabitants who want to lead a healthy life-style.



*Innovative community projects, local philanthropists, and successful businesses with ideas, abilities and resources, all facilitate the participation of local inhabitants with the aim to improve life and transform the city in a place we enjoy living in. Because this city is unique! If you were once born here, if you were educated here, if you worked here, or if you made it here for fun and you ended up staying, you know what I am talking about.*

**Claudiu Florea,** *President of the Board, Iași Community Foundation*



www.fcmares.org

*Mureș Community Foundation has the mission to better the lives of the inhabitants through mobilizing resources and financing local development initiatives.*

### Public spaces for pedestrians and bikers

The program 'MureșOnBike' is initiated by Mureș Community Foundation and financed by 'HEINEKEN for Communities'. In 2013 the program has placed bicycle racks in front of several stores. Also, in partnership with the Târgu Mureș Municipality, 30 bicycle racks were placed near three educational institutions (a kindergarten, a junior high, and a high school). Throughout the year, the Foundation organized two Critical Mass events and a public consultation on mobility among pupils travelling to school in Târgu Mureș.

The Foundation also implemented a project that attracted the attention of the community. It aimed to stimulate debates on the quality of public spaces and their accessibility for traffic and pedestrians. The project, PARC(ARE), consisted in transforming a parking lot in a mini-park for one day.



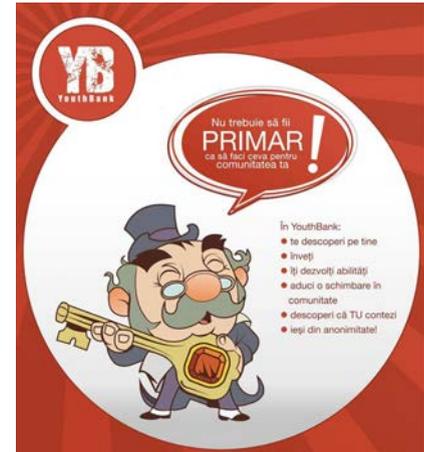
### Swimathon.ms 2013

The first program of Mureș Community Foundation reached its third edition. Mureș Swimathon attracted \$6,002 through 14 teams that entered the competition. The team of Gedeon Richter managed to impress through raising \$3,503 for supporting the necessary medical treatment for a three year old girl.

Projects financed in 2013:	21	Total value:	\$9,362
Scholarships awarded in 2013:	5	Total value:	\$3,933
Community projects implemented in 2013:	8	Total value:	\$2,511
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$15,806</b>

Projects financed by the end of 2013:	45	Total value:	\$17,018
Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:	5	Total value:	\$3,933
Community projects implemented by the end of 2013:	11	Total value:	\$16,944
<b>Total</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$37,895</b>

# Together for community!



### YouthBank Mureș

In 2012-2013 the 10 members of the YouthBank Mureș team managed to mobilize \$1,558 for financing six projects proposed by high school students from Târgu Mureș.

*We became like a family, meaning we are all already friends; we all know each other; in the evenings, when we have the chance, we talk, mostly about the YouthBank projects. We have already changed a lot, we all became better, meaning it's hard to understand the world you live in, unless you get engaged with it and we were offered now the opportunity to get engaged, to be in contact with different kinds of people: from high-level managers, to children who are institutionalized and who need us.*

**Raluca Niculescu, Alumna YouthBank Mureș**

## Mureș Community Card

Starting with 2013, Mureș Community Foundation implements the Community Card, using the model initiated by Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation and developed by Covasna Community Foundation. In the first year, the 2,689 card users contributed to mobilizing \$2,302. Five community initiatives were financed from this amount.



## NGO Fest – Together for community, 9<sup>th</sup> edition

Mureș Community Foundation contributes to the consolidation of civil society through organizing the NGO Fest – Together for community, in partnership with DIVERS Association. The NGO Fest offers a framework where NGOs active in various fields can interact, once a year, showing to the community the services and other kinds of activities they are offering, and also attracting volunteers and 2% contributions from the income tax facility. The Community Foundation awarded together with Oracler Advertising the prize for the best promotion that was won by Caritas Alba Iulia with the Campaign 'A Million Stars.'



## Reghin Regional Community Fund

The activity of the Reghin Regional Community Fund demonstrates how active small and medium sized communities from Romania can be, provided the necessary support.

*The role of the Reghin Community Fund is to support small communities or initiative groups to become sustainable or to fulfill their objectives related to the local community. The functioning of the Reghin Community Fund over the past year and managing to mobilize over \$37,392 showed its efficiency. The basic principles are: transparency, communication and responsibility.*

*Ștefan Molnar, Programs Coordinator,  
Reghin Regional Community Fund*

## Half-marathon 2013

In April 2013 the first edition of the Half-Marathon 'I Love Reghin' took place. The event was dedicated to initiative groups from high schools and \$4,985 were mobilized with the help of 90 runners. The raised funds helped implement eight community initiatives.

## Urban Lab EDU+

The first program of the Reghin Community Fund was Urban Lab EDU+. The Lab aims at offering a space for formal and non-formal education for the youth in Reghin. One of the projects implemented in 2013 is the Urban Promotion Project, where a group of 10 high school volunteers from Reghin, coordinated by an experienced tourist guide, take part in a travel guidance, history research, and personal development course in order to prepare a cultural-touristic route through the town.



## Community Pass

2013 is also the year where Reghin Community Fund challenges their community with a new opportunity. The Community Pass aims at developing a local fund through recurrent donations of over \$6.2. The donors will also be involved in selecting the initiatives to receive funding.



www.szka.org

*We are a grant-maker and a knowledge hub that supports the Odorheiu region, a region full of vitality that acts creatively and assumes responsibility for strengthening the community.*

### The Community Card and the 'You Decide' Fund

Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation entered its fifth year of implementing its community card program, ensuring financing for local initiatives. The community card is an instrument through which companies and their clients, the card users, can support the community. The companies offer 1% of the value of what was purchased for community and 1% deduction for their customers. The money enters the "You Decide" Fund and the card users



Projects financed by the end of 2013:	211	Total value:	\$267,818
Scholarships awarded by the end of 2013:	1	Total value:	\$662
Community projects implemented by the end of 2013:	44	Total value:	\$50,466
<b>Total</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$318,946</b>

# You too can do something for your community!



can vote for selecting the initiatives to be financed. The purpose of the 'You Decide' Fund is to support local initiatives that aim to develop community. In 2013 11 projects were financed through the vote of 5,875 card users. The total amount granted to the 11 initiatives was \$12,324.

### The Community Gala, pay-roll donations and community involvement for a more beautiful town

For over five years the inhabitants of Odorheiu Secuiesc invest in making their town more beautiful through the program 'Urban Claca' (community work). The employees of the local companies support with monthly donations several urban revitalization

Projects financed in 2013:	54	Total value:	\$74,554
Scholarships awarded in 2013:	1	Total value:	\$662
Community projects implemented in 2013:	17	Total value:	\$15,615
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$90,832</b>



interventions. In 2013, 18 partner companies and 375 individual donors managed to raise \$4,678 that was used for the partial refurbishment of the Jesus Chapel.

In 2013, 80 people participated at the Odorheiu Community Gala where the Foundation organized an auction, a charity raffle, and wine tasting, as well as presented the results achieved by the Foundation. The donations amounted to \$4,175 and were used as well for the renovations of the Chapel.

*I did not know I was a volunteer. I answered to the call of Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation and I contributed with what I could. I believe in the strength of civic action and that many small initiatives brought together can achieve a lot. If a journalist and a TV presenter is willing to work three hours per year for the local community, so can a carpenter, an economist, or a student – that is the secret of the Foundation or even of the entire community. Let's be more than simple spectators in our own town!*

**László Ferenc Máthé,**

*Journalist and TV presenter, Odorheiu Secuiesc*

In renovating the Chapel 107 volunteers participated. Three visual plans were created and the most popular was chosen based on the vote of 310 people. The total budget for the intervention was \$15,634. During the year, more than 2,300 people visited the Chapel.

*Although I do not consider myself religious, the Jesus Chapel is a part of the built patrimony that was left to us by our forefathers, being a part of a history we should take care of.*

**Krisztina Kiraly,**  
Volunteer, Odorheiu Secuiesc

### Fondul pentru inițative rurale Rural Initiatives Fund

The Fund for Rural Initiatives is a new initiative of the Foundation. It was launched in order to support civil society development and community activities in the Odorhei region. The Fund was financed through two campaigns: the 'Philanthropic Community' and 'Drink an apple juice for Odorhei'. Nine projects were supported, in total value of \$3,844.



### Run for It!

The running competition 'Run for It!' attracted in 2013 funds for 12 community projects. 92 runners were part of the competition and together they run a total of 1,256 km, managing to attract \$12,014 from 603 supporters and donors.



### YouthBank Odorheiu Secuiesc

In 2013 Youth Bank Odorheiu Secuiesc reached its 5th edition. Eight high school students managed to attract over \$1,500 from the community. That sum was matched by OTP Bank. The Fund supported three initiatives proposed by high school students from Odorheiu Secuiesc.

*I want to do something for the community, to prove to adults (but, more importantly to myself), that I can contribute! To fight those stereotypes that say: 'youth nowadays...' or 'in my time...'. YouthBank is an excellent opportunity to do that.*

Adél Pál, YouthBank Odorheiu Secuiesc



### Multiculturalism and community development

Since 2011 the Odorheiu Secuiesc Community Foundation works with the Alcsík community. The aim of the project is to support multicultural communities in the area, where ethnic Roma and Hungarians live together. In 2013 initiatives such as the following were supported: creating jobs, education and training for youth, social

entrepreneurship initiatives and study visits. The budget of the project was 42.210 euro for 2013.

### The crowdfunding platform

In 2013 the Foundation launched the crowdfunding platform [www.give-get-do.ro](http://www.give-get-do.ro). Since it was launched eight projects were presented on the platform and four of them managed to attract the desired support. Through the platform 1,850 euros were raised in 2013 with the help of OTP Bank that doubled the raised amounts.

*Our volunteers came this spring with the idea of a park where you can walk barefoot. When the Community Foundation launched the crowdfunding site, we found it a great match for this project, because a new kind of project matches a new kind of fundraising mechanism.*

**Orsolya Vass,**  
Odorheiu Secuiesc Youth Forum

### Cristuru Secuiesc Community Fund

In 2013 the Cristuru Secuiesc Community Fund managed to finance four initiatives with the total amount of \$2,227. The projects included: new equipment and refurbishment for educational institutions and the fire service. Also the Soskut Spa, renovated in the past years with the support of the Community Fund, benefited in 2013 of new investments.



FUNDAȚIA  
COMUNITARĂ  
**ORADEA**

www.fundatiacomunitaraoradea.ro

*Oradea Community Foundation aims to better the lives of the inhabitants of Bihor County through mobilizing and disbursing resources for local initiatives.*

### Swim and run for your community

In July 2013 Oradea Community Foundation organized successfully the first Swimathon in Oradea. 11 local initiatives joined the competition and 111 swimmers responded positively to the challenge of supporting these projects. In their turn the swimmers created waves in the Oradea community involving over 140 donors and supporters. Together they mobilized \$8,152.

Oradea Community Foundation, together with the Sports High School 'Bihorul,' invited the public to contribute for the first synthetic running track in Oradea. The initiative promotes health and sport within the community.

### 11even Oradea

The event '11even' focuses on life experience, people, and models. It is a space that brings together people that passed through special experiences that deserve to be shared with people who are searching for relevant examples for their own personal and professional development. Starting from the idea that emotions

<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$14,145</b>
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>\$14,145</b>	

## People that inspire the community!



lead to action, these events are created to inspire and generate positive decisions related to one's life and career. In 2013, Oradea Community Foundations organized a new successful edition, after the one in 2012 that contributed to the establishment of the Foundation.

*A change of direction is needed, towards a direction that aims for any kind of community wellbeing. The way in which Oradea Community Foundation approaches things is a long-term, constructive one. The results will, without doubt, show.*

*Loredana Suiugan, Board Member, Oradea Community Foundation*

### Femina – A program for women, supporting their leadership and involvement in community

Oradea Community Foundation started in 2013 a program that supports leadership and community engagement among women. Several seminars and interviews were conducted with successful women. Also, nine teams were formed that imagine and implement projects with an impact in community. Through these activities, the Foundation managed to create a community of women leaders that contribute with ideas, talent, and their energy to creating a better life for themselves and the community.

*Femina is a feminine movement that, although does not mobilize significant financial resources, has an impact through the large number of involved people and through the community utility of the projects realized by the participants with the support of the mentors.*

**Sorin Constantin**, President of the Board,  
Oradea Community Foundation



### Oradea CSR Gala

On December 13, 2013 the companies from Oradea were recognized for the way in which they supported the community throughout the year. The jury, formed of people with experience in CSR, selected the winners of the five categories: the best CSR project/program, the most active company in the area of corporate social responsibility, involving the employees in socially responsible activities, the most promising new-entry in applying CSR policies, and the most involved manager in CSR activities. During the Gala six projects benefited from the support of the participating companies.

*It was for the first time in the Bihor community when the donors had the occasion to be presented as examples worth following, 'their stories' finding a way to inspire others.*

**Loredana Suiugan**, Board Member,  
Oradea Community Foundation

## Youth Programs

### Scholarships for Talents

OCF supports since 2013 talented youth from the local community. Through the 'Scholarships for Talents' Fund, Oradea Community Foundation wishes to encourage and promote talented youth in various areas: science, humanities, arts and sport, and to offer them support and confidence on the path they had chosen. The Scholarship for Talents Fund encourages the performance of young students and university graduates involved in research or who work on projects with an aim of realizing innovative products that bring an added value for the community.



The funds for the scholarships were mobilized through the '11even Oradea 2013' event. The Foundation supported young students with musical talents, an initiative to design an intelligent system for collecting suggestions from the community, a creative workshop, a project focused on informing the public about the built patrimony, an initiative aiming to develop a software for managing objectives, and the publication of the book "The Red Hell from the City on the Cris."



### YouthBank Oradea

13 high school students gathered their energy and talent in order to create and manage a fund for their peers from Oradea, contributing to raising \$4,331 that supported nine projects.

*The program helped me to reach my aims, to become more responsible and to take better care of myself. I believe that YouthBank is the right place for high school students, the place where they can grow, where they can speak their ideas. In a few words, the place where they can get a diverse experience, necessary for their future.*

**Zsolt Kocsis**,  
Member of YouthBank Oradea



*We increase the quality of life of the inhabitants of Prahova County through mobilizing and disbursing resources for local development initiatives.*

In its first year of activity, Prahova Community Foundation financed a series of projects aimed to support youth in Prahova County, to cultivate talents, as well as a program for supporting local initiatives in the areas of education, culture, and health.

### YouthBank Ploiești

The first YouthBank Ploiești team was selected in the fall of 2013 and it counts 15 high school students. They implemented creative fundraising events managing to mobilize



<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	5	<b>Total value:</b>	\$11,093
<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	10	<b>Total value:</b>	\$2,025
<b>Total 2013</b>	15		\$13,118

## Discovering talents and promoting involvement!



resources from the community. Some of the events are: a sports event organized on the Olimpia ice-skating ring, two philanthropic events "We miss Toni" and a basketball game in the memory of the Asesoft basketball team captain, and a cultural event organized in partnership with the improvisation theatre group Obligó. The resources mobilized through these events as well as the matching of the national YouthBank partner BRD Societe Generale contributed to a YouthBank Fund summing \$4,050 for the school year 2013-2014.



*YouthBank for us, as a team, is more than a project, more than a responsibility, and much more than work. For us, the Ploiești YouthBank team is also a fundamental experience about knowing our own capacities. We have the occasion to meet new people with whom we can keep in touch. We were happy to find out that they also want a change at a local level, and why not, a change towards a better view on youth within the society. When you know that you can offer a new chance to youth, to children of our age, but also have an impact on adults, all you need is vision and a couple of skillful hands. We had all of these: hard work, the joy to be involved, optimism and many open-minded people. Through YouthBank we evolved together.*

**Helene**, Volunteer, YouthBank Ploiești



### 'The Beautiful City' Fund

'The Beautiful City' is a Fund that stimulates initiative groups and NGOs from the towns of Prahova County to develop projects that can lead to positive social change. The total value of the grant-making fund was \$9,535 for initiatives in the areas of education, health, and culture. The Fund was built based on the resources mobilized through the conference "About values, morality and dignity" held by Dan Puric.

The initiative group "I love Ploiești" realized a first map for tourists of the city,



aiming to inform the community and tourists about the local cultural sites. Two other initiatives support social inclusion of physically disabled children and promote volunteering among youth in the local community.

### Volunteering, Involvement, Sustainability. In short V.I.S.

V.I.S. Fund was established together with the Pupils' County Council and supports high school students in Prahova to mobilize resources and promote initiatives for positive social change in their community. The Fund was established in 2013 with a value of \$1,558.

*The opportunity that Prahova Community Foundation, together with the Pupils' County Council offered us was great. We really learned what a project competition is, how a project must be written, and what it means to do something for our community.*

*Ana Voicilă, Beneficiary, V.I.S. Fund*



### 'Adopt a Value' Fund

'Adopt a Value' is another fund that supports talented youth and that was built while the Foundation was being established. The funds for 'Adopt a Value' were raised through several events. Six students aged 10 to 17 benefited from the support of the Fund in 2013.

## With passion for community

*Sibiu Community Foundation supports initiatives with impact in the local community. Together we can build a stronger community.*

At the end of 2013, Sibiu Community Foundation ended successfully its first year of activity with a bigger Half-marathon, the second year of YouthBank, preparations for a scholarships fund and other initiatives for building micro-communities.

### SemiMaraton Sibiu

The second edition of the Half-Marathon mobilized the local community in Sibiu, an impressive number of participants, and amount of funds for the community. 23 causes were supported by 460 runners and 1,243 donors. 155 volunteers were involved



in organizing the event, which benefited from the support of 46 NGOs, local authorities and companies. The financed causes belonged to fields such as education, health, environment and patrimony protection, support for vulnerable groups, promoting biking, and animal welfare.

*The way in which the community came together for the 2013 half-marathon demonstrated once again that when a proper framework exists, people get involved. At the second edition we could see how the community started to own the event and how the fundraising campaigns acquired a life of their own under our eyes.*

**Ciprian Ciocan**, Executive Director,  
Sibiu Community Foundation



*Each person runs in life for one's self, family, boss or money, but when one has a higher aim as that of helping others, the motivation is stronger. You know that the raised funds can help someone to fulfill his or her ideal.*

**Fane Tulpan**

Projects financed by the end of 2013:	37	Total value:	\$35,691
Community projects implemented by the end of 2013	1	Total value:	\$1,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$37,257</b>

Projects financed in 2013:	32	Total value:	\$29,844
Community projects implemented in 2013:	1	Total value:	\$1,567
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$31,411</b>

*The Sibiu 2013 Half-Marathon is an adorable initiative, an event with benefic effects for all those involved. As a runner, at the start line, observing the high number of participants and volunteers around me, I had a strong happiness impulse and a feeling of unity that we rarely find, realizing that these people are involved out of pure kindness. After such an event one is left with a feeling of gratitude towards the world and towards life.*

**Irina Ana Lechintan**

### **YouthBank Sibiu**

In 2013, Youth Bank Sibiu reached its second year of activity. The first year's team supported eight projects with the amount of \$3,446. At the end of the year the team grew to 17. They managed to mobilize funds for 2014 through selling Christmas cards, a donation campaign in the Sibiu Shopping City, sponsorships from companies, and an auction of experiences-that-cannot-be-bought.



"48 for Teens" is the name of a short film competition for high school students from Sibiu who are passionate about filmmaking. They had 48 hours to conceive, film, and edit a short film on a theme communicated at the start of the competition.

Other projects financed by YouthBank included cultural, recreational, educational, social, volunteering and responsibility-in-traffic activities.

*This project was a unique experience for all the members of the team because none of us were the main organizers of an event before. The most important thing that we learnt was that even the most ambitious idea can be achieved, if there is willingness to get involved, passion, hard work, and support. Moreover, these projects taught us to work in a team, to use time in an efficient way, to discover our qualities and to use them in the benefit of good cooperation. Even the difficult moments have a positive impact on us. They only managed to test our abilities; they strengthened the connections among us.*

**Corina Doican**, Leader of the 'Five for Film' Team, team that organized "48 for Teens"

### **'Căsuța de lectură' for building trust in community**

Anabela Târnovan is from Sibiu and supported the establishment of the Community Foundation. For Anabela reading can contribute not only to spending quality recreational time, but also to increasing trust in the local community



by placing small mini-libraries in public spaces so that they are taken care of by the community. The mini-library is a project that aims to stir passion for books and create nice reading experiences through circulating books within the community. Anabela built this Fund on her birthday from the contributions of her friends who were inspired by her project.

### **Start-up for "microCommunities"**

Sibiu Community Foundation started a series of meetings that brings together passionate people for sports. These meetings aim to facilitate the encounter among many people with common interests, to support exchange of experience, to understand and stimulate better knowledge on how strong communities can be built in practice.



www.fundatiactf.ro

# Creativity and determination for involving the community!

*We increase the quality of life in the region through involving and understanding the community.*

Țara Făgărașului Community Foundation was established in June 2013 after an intense fundraising campaign through which \$11,685 were mobilized from the local community. The team that established the Foundation demonstrated during the first year of activity both creativity and determination for identifying resources and ways of involving the community.

## Ellie White, Răzvan Suma and Vlad Miriță

The three artists who invested trust in the initiative group for the establishment of the Țara Făgărașului Community Foundation are at the center of the first three events that mobilized funds. At the Țara Făgărașului Community Gala more than 100 participants enjoyed the presence of the renowned violoncellist Răzvan Suma and had the occasion to take part at an auction. The event brought a contribution of over \$3,739 towards the Scholarship Fund of the Foundation.

<b>Projects financed in 2013:</b>	7	<b>Total value:</b>	\$7,602
<b>Scholarships awarded in 2013:</b>	2	<b>Total value:</b>	\$3,116
<b>Community projects implemented in 2013:</b>	6	<b>Total value:</b>	\$214
<b>Total 2013</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>Total value:</b>	<b>\$10,934</b>



The Concert with the tenor Vlad Miriță took place in an unconventional space – Făgăraș train station. While at first the initiative was received with skepticism and curiosity, at the end it attracted a powerful and sincere round of applause from the participants. The tenor returned to Făgăraș for a second concert at the Evangelical Church.

## The Kids' Community

One of the first volunteering initiatives was an urban mini-festival for children, the Kids' Community where more than 400 children participated. The theme of the event was 'together'. The festival mobilized

organizations, initiative groups, volunteers, and companies and managed to provide a pleasant experience for the participants and their parents.

## Scholarships for talented youth

From the funds mobilized for establishing the Foundation \$3,116 were allocated for two scholarships. Harald Bârzan at the time a high school student on the 12th grade at the National College "Doamna Stanca" Făgăraș and Lidia Arsu, student at the Faculty of Medicine where the first two beneficiaries of the Scholarship Fund.

*I would like to be where I can bring the highest contribution. And I feel that place is at home; where everybody runs away, leaving a space that needs to be filled up. I am proud to be from Țara Făgărașului and I strongly wish to be able to return home and practice medicine.*

**Lidia Arsu** - Recipient of the Țara Făgărașului Scholarship and Student in medicine

*I strongly wish that someday the cure for the neurodegenerative diseases (Alzheimer, Parkinson) would carry my name, for it to be a product from Romania, even from Făgăraș. In Țara Făgărașului there is an extraordinary energy that ties one forever to what will always be at home. [...] if we understand how to contribute in helping each other, together we will certainly succeed.*

**Harald Bârzan** - Recipient of the Țara Făgărașului Scholarship and Student on the 12th grade at the National College "Doamna Stanca" Făgăraș

### Support for the Victoria Film Festival

As Țara Făgărașului Community Foundation encourages and supports local initiative, it decided to support financially, logistically and through volunteering activities the first edition of the Victoria Film Festival, an initiative of Victoria Art Association. This event proves to inhabitants in Victoria that things can be taken in the right direction.

### A Community Hospital

Difficult experiences, as those encountered in hospitals, are shared by each member of the community. Therefore, these experiences are of interest for the entire community. One of the causes proposed by the Foundation is to improve the

experience of patients from the Municipal Hospital. \$4,674 are invested in providing the Hospital with new sets of bed sheets.

### YouthBank Făgăraș

2013 was the first year for YouthBank in Făgăraș. The 11 high school students from YouthBank Făgăraș have managed to mobilize resources by taking part in the "Days and Nights" Fair organized by the Town Hall in front of the Făgăraș Fortress, as well as through selling Christmas cards. They managed to contribute to a fund of \$4,393 that finances youth initiatives in Făgăraș.

*My expectations as I applied were different from what, in fact, YouthBank offered me. I discovered that I am capable of doing things that before I did not believe I could do. In spite of the encountered challenges, we, the YouthBank team, did wonderful things, I believe. We showed to everyone that it is possible and that youth deserve a chance to demonstrate what they can do.*

**Enikő Somodi**, Member of the YouthBank Făgăraș Team



### Țara Făgărașului Donor Circle

The Foundations has organized the first Țara Făgărașului Donor Circle in December 2013. The Circle brought together those people from the community who wish to support specific local initiatives and offered them the occasion to learn more about the community, its needs, and the approach proposed by the projects. The first meeting of the Țara Făgărașului Donor Circle brought together 42 donors. \$1,682 were donated for supporting three community initiatives: palliative care for children, arranging a room for kids at the Municipal Hospital, and help for a family without a home.

*I have never heard about this kind of help, it was for the first time when I was taking part. Although the mechanism was explained to me, I will be honest, I did not believe in it! But look, we should never say never. Although I was skeptical in the beginning, the event was more than a success. The success was above expectations and I believe that it is the best example that if those who support a project, a cause, believe 100% in it, know how to present it sincerely and decently, and are involved totally in making it happen, the results can be above our expectations!*

**Manuela Ifrim**, Member of the Țara Făgărașului Donor Circle

# The National Program for Supporting Community Foundations





## 2018: Vision

Until 2018, the community foundations movement in Romania will grow to 15 foundations, generating and sustaining initiatives in their areas. The foundations will become active centers for philanthropy, supporting the involvement of private donors and will respond to local needs and opportunities, having sufficient resources for becoming actors with an important role in local development.

## 2006-2012: The History and the Two Phases of the National Program

The Program had up to now two phases. A pilot phase, between 2006 and 2009, that involved a proactive take on testing the interest of Transylvanian communities with regard to building local grant-making institutions starting from the available resources in the respective communities. At the end of that phase, two community foundations were established through the initiatives in Cluj and Odorheiu Secuiesc.

The second phase of the program took place between 2009 and 2012. During this period we aimed at consolidating the existing community foundations and supporting the establishment of four to six new community foundations.

Based on the program's positive results, as well as on an increased interest from local communities, we decided to expand the framework of the program so that more community foundations could be supported.

## 2010-2012: Key Results

The community foundations from Cluj and Odorheiu Secuiesc continued to grow, covering through their grants fields such as: education, youth engagement, social entrepreneurship, social inclusion, and volunteering for the rehabilitation of community spaces.

In 2010 two new community foundations were established in Alba and Covasna. Two more community foundations were established in 2011, in Bucharest and Mureș. In 2012 community foundations were established in Iași and Sibiu and initiatives were launched in Oradea, Prahova, Bacău, and Țara Făgărașului.

In 2008-2013 the community foundations involved in the program offered over 800 grants, 383 scholarships and supported directly with materials, equipment, and volunteers 117 community projects.

Between 2008 and 2013 the community foundations offered direct support in total value of \$1,169,998 of which \$850,275 in grants, \$206,757 in scholarships, and \$112,966 in community projects.

In the same period, the community foundations mobilized \$1,239,745 from individual donors and companies from Romania. \$443,537 was raised from individual donors and \$796,207 from companies.

## 2009-2013: Support activities

In 2009-2010 we focused on the development of a specific framework for ensuring the functioning of community foundations in Romania. We opened a dialogue with the existing community foundations and with the partners and supporters of the program regarding the principles and standards for community foundations. The standards and principles are meant to ensure a common framework for stimulating professionalism, transparency, and competence for the practice of community foundations in Romania.

In 2010, we promoted at a national level the community foundations and the supporters of the program and we invited more local initiatives to join us. 10 initiatives were selected to receive consultancy and a training on community foundations. The most advanced among these took part in a study visit in the UK. At the same time, the initiatives that managed to mobilize 50% of the necessary patrimony for establishing the foundations, received from the National Program the rest of the necessary resources and succeeded to register officially.

Also in 2011, we supported the development of the organizational capacity of the initiative groups, offering information and technical assistance. Throughout 2011 we organized three meetings of the network of community foundations and of the initiative groups,

where we finalized the principles and standards for the functioning of community foundations. A key event for the movement took place in Bucharest in April 2011 – the first Conference on Community Foundations, named “Imagine and build the future: with the community, for the community.” A new call for initiative groups was launched at the end of 2011.



In 2012, the program focused its attention on offering support for the new initiative groups so that they understood the concept of ‘community foundation’ and plan and implement activities at a local level. In that phase seven new initiatives groups were eager to start community foundations. Of these, five groups managed to register as community foundations by the end of 2012 or at the beginning of 2013.

Throughout 2012 we continued to invest in the capacity of community foundations (know how, innovation, and exchange of experience). Our contribution aimed to provide help in generating and mobilizing local resources through sustainable mechanisms for involving the community and through offering philanthropy consultancy. At the beginning of 2012 the second conference on Community Foundations was organized in Cluj-Napoca with the topic “Leadership for Local Communities.”

Also, we renewed the cooperation framework with the Romanian-American Foundation (RAF). The RAF Fund for stimulating individual donations will support community foundations to attract resources from individual donors in the period 2013-2015.

The National Program offered through the Foundation for Partnership a start-up matching grant with an average value of \$11,685 for completing the resources that were locally mobilized for the establishment of the new foundations. Moreover, the newly created community foundations could access financial support for the first two years of activity, varying between \$15,580 and \$24,928 per year, depending on the moment of their legal registration. For more advanced foundations, the program offered financial help for the establishment of a reserve fund and for sharing their experience.

At the level of the program, we regularly collect information on the development of community foundations, sharing the information with the wider public and supporters of the foundations.

At the beginning of 2013, we contracted an independent evaluation of the Program, led by Monica Patten, former leader of the Canadian Federation of Community Foundations for 18 years. Based on that evaluation, ARC and the Romanian Federation of Community Foundations developed their strategic plans and agreed on the distribution of roles in supporting the community foundations in the period 2014-2018. The Federation became a strategic partner within the National Program.

In September 2013, Romania was the host of a study visit organized by C.S. Mott Foundation in partnership with the Romanian community foundations

movement. The visit brought together participants and researchers from South Africa, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czech Republic, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, the United States of America, Turkey, and Ukraine. In the same month, the Program supported the participation of Romanian community foundations at the UK Conference of Community Foundations.

At the end of 2013, a new partnership for supporting and developing the Program was signed with Raiffeisen Bank. According to the partnership, we will support the development of three new community foundations, while a part of the existing community foundations will receive financial support for further growth.

At the beginning of 2014 a new offer was launched for initiative groups that wish to establish foundations in areas that are not already covered by the Program. After the pre-selection phase we continued working with four initiative groups in Braşov, Dâmboviţa, Galaţi and Timişoara.

### The Program Budget

The expenditure budget of the program for 2013 was \$377,248. The financial audit of the Program for the period June 1, 2009 - May 31, 2013 was conducted by KPMG.

The Consultative Committee of the Community Foundations Program supports with pro-bono expertise the activity of the program and the development of community foundations. The members of the Committee are: Andreea Roşca, communications consultant; Dan Pascariu, UniCredit Ţiriac Bank President; Marius Ghenea, entrepreneur and business angel; Peter Barta, Director of the Post-Privatization Foundation; and Gabriel Biriş, partner of Biriş-Goran.

## Initiator and coordinator



**Association for Community Relations (ARC)** is the organization that initiated the development of community foundations in Romania, promoted the idea of community foundations starting with 2006, and constantly supported the establishment and functioning of community foundations.

For over a decade, ARC builds, together with other organizations, companies with a strong vision, and individual donors a world where problems can be resolved through mobilizing private resources.

For that, ARC develops the capacity of the actors involved in the philanthropic process through offering or mobilizing resources; creates and develops new specialized institutions; and promotes a favorable environment for philanthropy in Romania.

ARC supports NGOs to attract funds from their communities, the companies to make durable investments, and builds mechanisms for stimulating new projects with social impact.

ARC is the leader of the National Program for Community Foundations and coordinates the broader partnership that supports the program. It supports the development of new initiatives, as well as the development of the institutional capacity of the existing foundations.

## Partners of the Program



**The Romanian Federation of Community Foundations** was established in 2012 with the aim to represent the interest of community foundations at a national level, to cultivate strategic philanthropy at a local level, and to sustain interested actors to invest in their communities.



**Fundația pentru Parteneriat** supports a better environment and community development in Romania, contributing to a sustainable and democratic society. The Foundation stimulates the involvement of citizens and inter-sectorial partnerships for resolving community- and environment-related challenges. Within the National Program for Community Foundations, FP is a partner in monitoring the grants offered for consolidating the community foundations.

## Supporters of the Program



**Charles Stewart Mott Foundation** is a powerful supporter of community foundations globally, having experience in supporting initiatives for the development of community foundations in various parts of the world, including Central and Eastern Europe.



**Raiffeisen Bank** supports the sustainable development of local communities, as well as of community foundations, contributing to a more competent, involved, and responsible society where people and communities manage to respond to their own needs and contribute to their own wellbeing.



**Romanian-American Foundation** aims at developing the private sector in Romania through financing projects in education, entrepreneurship, and community development. RAF supports the consolidation of community foundations through a special fund that encourages the foundations to involve individual donors in their communities.

A program initiated by

In partnership with

With the financial support of



And participation of the community foundations



[www.fundatiicomunitare.ro](http://www.fundatiicomunitare.ro)

