

## Jubilee

### The Republican Rehabilitation Centre for disabled people, labour and war veter- ans from Cocieri, Dubasari raion celebrates 20 years of activity

On this occasion, the institution's employees and beneficiaries enjoyed a festive party with the special guest, Mrs. Valentina Buliga, the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga congratulated the employees of the Republican Rehabilitation center for disabled people, labour and war veterans, handed gratitude diplomas to many employees, accompanied by a attention gesture offering them a musical recital with Anisoara Puica and Adrian Ursu.

In her speech, Mrs. Valentina Buliga expressed sincere congratulations and best wishes to the institution, thanked the 140 employees of the institutions for their every day

work, appreciated their efforts to create similar family conditions for the beneficiaries, as she wished them team spirit, understanding atmosphere and spiritual satisfaction.

The minister also talked about the social-economical country's situation and mentioned the importance of the started social reforms continuation.

*"I worship in front of you for your noble and not so easy work that you do, and I am convinced that you deserve the greatest appreciation and better work conditions, decent wages and pensions that would ensure your existence", stated Mrs. Valentina Buliga.*

The present guests, partners and donors also congratulated the institution team.



*Dear Ladies,*

*Ladies who represent the mother, grandmother, friend, sister, daughter, wife, beloved person... women who give a meaning to this life, I wish you the warmest and sincere best wishes and health in The International Women's Day eve.*

*I wish that the spring through its beauty, tenderness and naturalness will surround you with a bunch of beautiful feelings, with enough flowers to form a garden and a lot of hugs you truly deserve.*

*I wish you that the beautiful achievements, health, insistence, bravery and the snowdrops smell of the Women's Day to be always with you, and the spring flowers' smell fill your soul with happiness and beautiful achievements.*

*Respectfully,*

*Minister of Labour,  
Social Protection and Family,  
Valentina BULIGA*



## **Activity reporting meetings for 2010 of the institutions subordinated to the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family**

### **the Republican Asylum for disabled and pensioners from Chisinau Municipality.**

The asylum employees participated at the meeting. The institution's director Mr. Gheorghe Gherștega, presented the activity report for the 2010, mentioning that the Republican Asylum for disabled and pensioners was built in 1976, has 210 beds in 2 buildings, advisory centre, large hall, canteen, library, recreation hall, church, etc. The institution's mission is to provide social protection to the beneficiaries, granting recovery, capacity maintenance and social (re)integration measures.

The beneficiaries are old people and with physical disabilities, people that once found themselves in a difficult situation that generated marginalization and social exclusion, with the lack of the family or community support and being dependent on tertiary support. In this asylum are temporary or permanent accommodated somatic people, without legal supporters. The institution offers full maintenance services, including medical and social assistance.

The beneficiaries' number is about 200 persons. The maintenance expenses per month of a beneficiary in 2010 was 4277,28 lei, in comparison with the 3382,02 in 2009, or with 895,26 lei more.

Referring to the successes achieved in 2010, the institution's director mentioned the full renovation of the fence surrounding the Asylum, full renovation of the food unit (kitchen and canteen), full restoration of the heating and water supply exterior systems, full renovation of the lighting network (the works keep continue and in 2011).

Among the severe institution's problems the director highlighted the renovation of the beneficiaries' rooms, staff fluctuation and their pay.

Also Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned that, first of all, the Republican Asylum for disabled and pensioners staff deserve thanksgiving and gratitude words for their every day work supporting the disadvantaged people. The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family also mentioned that, however the work in this institution is a difficult one, the employees must unite their efforts in order to create a family-like atmosphere for the beneficiaries. Mrs. Val-



entina Buliga stated that *"The communication, activity transparency, staff motivation are factors that may have a beneficial influence on the state of mind and efficient management of the institution"*.

### **The boarding school for children (girls) with mental deficiency from Hincești**

At the meeting all 170 employees of the Boarding School for children (girls) with mental deficiency from Hincești participated, and the activity report was presented by the institution's director Mrs. Elizaveta Iacub.

According to the report, at the moment, in the boarding school for children with mental deficiency there are 337 girls with mental delays of various degrees, and 98 of them cannot move independently.

Mrs. Elizaveta Iacub also mentioned that over 230 children from this institution have families, 78 of them were abandoned by their parents and just 9 of them are orphans. However, only 100 girls received visits during the 2010 year.

The institution director stated that „The beneficiaries of the Boarding School for children with mental deficiency from Hincești are at the full state maintenance, and for 2010 the institution received from the state budget more than 11 million lei for the care of children”.

Referring to the carried out works, Mrs.

Elizaveta Iacub mentioned the placement room restoration, laboratory renovation, natural gas kettle reparation, as well the water plumb and high voltage electric wire replacement, etc.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga also thanked the employees of the Boarding School for children with mental deficiency from Hincești for their every day work to create a family-like atmosphere for those over 300 children.

The Ministry also mentioned that the Institution from Hincești is one where the will, unity, professionalism and responsibility are characteristic elements for both institutions' management and employees.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga stated that „ This is the reason why you deserve gratitude and appreciation for the team spirit and the work you do”. Mrs. Valentina Buliga as well informed the institution's staff on the social protection system reform and answered multiple questions of the employees

### **Psychological – neurological boarding school from Cociei com., Dubasari raion**

At the meeting the employees of the psychological-neurological boarding school participated. The institution's director, Mr. Gheorghe Loghin presented the activity report for 2010, mentioning that the institution's activities began in 1976. The beneficiaries are persons with mental defi-



ciency and somatic diseases that benefit of the full state care and support, including the social and medical assistance.

There are 362 beneficiaries, 58 of them are bed-ridden. Among them there are 170 women and 192 men.

Referring to the carried out works in 2010, the director mentioned the renovation of the laundry equipment, flooring renovation and kitchen equipment, windows replacement in one of the institution's building.

Among the severe problems Mr. Gheorghie Loghin mentioned the fence construction, beneficiaries rooms renovation, the aqueduct and sewerage system restauration, as well providing the beneficiaries with clothing and shoes, employees pay

In her turn, Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned that, first of all, the psychological-neurological boarding school employees deserve gratitude and thanksgiving words for their every day work in persons with mental deficiency support.

The Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family also mentioned that work in this institution is a difficult one, the institution's

management deserves all the gratitude for dedication, efficient management, activity transparency and staff consolidation on successfully carrying out all the outlined tasks

## Labour Inspection

During 2010, in order to prevent and counteract illegalities in the labour field, the Labour Inspection carried out 6891 of controls at companies, institutions and organizations with a 250000 staff number, 130000 of them being women and 440 minors.

From the total number, 3541 controls were carried out in the Labour Relations field and 3340 in Labour security and health in labour market. In the control reports there were recorded 81795 violations of the Labour legislation, 36030 of them in the labour relations field and 45765 – in the labour security and health in labour market.

As a result of the unconformity of the directors of the economic units controlled with the provisions of the labour legislation, there were prepared and submitted by

the labour inspectors 55 complaints to the prosecution and police bodies, and 641 reports on contraventions were submitted to the court.

The most frequent violations of the labour legislation were related to the employment of labour force without individual work contracts as per stipulations of the current legislation (thus violating the provisions of the articles No 47,49,55,85,86 of the Labour Code); failure to respect the legal duration of the working hours (violating the provisions of the articles No 95-105,107,109,110,111 of the Labour Code;) employment with wages less than the minimum salary stipulated in the legislation, failure to pay compensatory payments, failure to pay the salaries on time (acceptance of wages carry-over) (violating the provisions of the articles 128 p.(2), 131,139,141,142,152,153 of the Labour Code).

However, during 2010, at 170 economical agents, there were identified 1000 persons allowed to work but not employed in accordance with existing legislation

After controls carried out in the labour security and health, it was found out that the most frequent violations made by the employees are connected with the lack of risk assessment in their activity; employment of people without professional training and studies in the field; using improvised work equipment without protection devices, without fencing the work areas, that bring a high risk for accidents (violating the provisions of the articles 225,226,229-243 of the Labour Code, labour security and health law, other norms, standards and regulations).

This is how, in 2010 at the Labour Inspection there were communicated 373 accidents (including 10 accidents from the previous years), 109 of them being work accidents where 142 employees suffered injuries. There were deadly injured 48 employees (including 3 women), 80 employees (included 14 women) were seriously injured and 14 employees ended up with temporary incapacity to work.

In comparison with 2009, the number of death accidents rose with 5, while severe accidents decreased with 26. The files with investigations of the work severe and lethal accidents were submitted to the prosecution bodies in order to investigate them under the penal code.

The Labour Inspection is a institution subordinated to the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family that has the state control on compliance with legislative and some normative acts containing norms of labour in all units, by individual employers, as well as central and local public authorities.





Charity

## 66 family-type children's homes from the Republic of Moldova received computers from the Moldcell Company

The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family presented at the press conference the results of the campaign implemented with the support of the Moldcell Company

The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned in her speech that it is significant to make the balance of the charity campaign in the first day of spring, and as the nature reborn in this season, so our action wants to be part of the upbringing and development of children from the 66 family-type homes from the 21 raions in the republic.

The Mrs. Ministry also mentioned that the family-type children's home is an institution created on the basis of a family in order to provide shared care and education to orphan children and children without parental care.

These institutions can host up to 3-7 children by the age of 14. The number of children placed in care of a family type children's home and biological children does not exceed 7 children in total.

According to the provisions of the Chapter 20 from the Family Code, a parent - educator can be persons living in the Republic of Moldova, who are 25 years of age and more and whose moral qualities and

health allow them to fulfil their obligations. The parent - educators have rights and obligations similar to those of the guardians towards the children placed in the family-type homes. The parent - educators are entitled to a remuneration as well as some as determined by the law.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga stated „*Further on, I would like to manifest sincere thanks and words of gratitude to our partners – Moldcell Company for their support, generosity, help and active involvement in supporting the Family-type children's homes. On the behalf of those 340 children we appreciate your kindness and receptivity towards the charity actions and support for those vulnerable and needing help people*”.

In his turn, the Moldcell General Director, Chiril Gaburici, highlighted that through all the carried out projects and initiatives, they contribute to the creation of a world with better opportunities. “*We are very happy that we had the chance to help 340 children from the family-type children's homes to be in line with the modern world, discovering a new communication world.*”

*I want to thank those more than 1 million Moldcell subscribers that give us their trust and the possibility to implement projects that bring long term and positive impact for the welfare of the community we all belong to.”*

The Moldcell subscribers also have contributed to the implementation of the campaign. So, 10 lei from every connection made in November 2010, as well as the budget for the production and distribution of the presents traditionally sent on holidays to the company's partners were used in order to facilitate the access to education of children - program beneficiaries.

Those 10 children that were present at the event, from the Roșca and Croitoru families, said that now it is more interesting and easier to study, when they have all the conditions they need. They thanked a lot the Moldcell Company, making the promise to use the computer more for studies then for entertainment. Also their parent - educators - Liuba and Nicolae Roșca and Valentina Croitoru expressed their gratitude to the initiators of the charity campaign for the provision of families with computers and internet.

## The Gutu family, that raises and educates triplets, bought a house, supported by people of good will

On March 29, 2010, the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family launched the „Help them to have a home” campaign, hoping to help Adrian and Ludmila’s family, from the Opaci village, Causeni raion to buy a house. This family brings up triplets Adriana, Mariana and Ionuț who were born on the 23.08.2008 .

Together with the social partners and mass-media, the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family informed and raised public awareness on this young family’s situation, where the father wants to work, but can not find a job, and the mother has to take care of their children, and she also does not have a job

The family also did not have a living space, temporary living in a house that was not theirs and were risking to lose this place anytime.

With the support of the United Nations Population Fund’s, a video and audio clips were developed and were broadcasted thanks to the generosity of several TV companies from the Republic of Moldova.

Further on, several legal persons and in-



dividuals among whom we can identify « Viorica-Cosmetic » SA, «Familia Sturza » Fund, AO « Children’s High Level Group», SRL « Viovada », CIE « Moldexpo » and others, that supported the campaign and contributed to the purchase of the house by the Gutu family in the native village.

The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga, in this context expressed sincere thanks and words of gratitude to all those who helped the triplets to have a parental house where to spend their childhood and where to come back when adults.

! „A call – a hope”

## At the Republican Asylum for disabled persons and pensioners from Chisinau a public telephone line was installed

This will give the beneficiaries the opportunity to make unlimited and free local calls, while for long-distance and mobile calls they will be able use phone cards.

The public telephone line was installed by the „Moldtelecom” company in the framework of the Humanitarian Action „ A call – a hope”, that includes 5 social projects aiming to contribute to the improvement of the access to communication technologies of some social assistance institutions in the country.

In the framework of the campaign developed during the month of February this year, the national telephone operator installed a public telephone line at the Republican Asylum for disabled persons and pensioners from Chisinau, Elders Asylum from Straseni and in 3 raion maternity hospitals.

At the inauguration ceremony, the General Director of Moldtelecom, Mr. Vitalie Iurcu mentioned



that this project represent the initiative of Moldtelecom Company to contribute to the social integration of the elderly and to convince them that, being at an old age they are not forgotten or abandoned.

“The first public phone was installed at the Republican Asylum for disabled persons and pensioners from Chisinau, which will be used by more than 200 beneficiaries of the institution. Mr. Vitalie Iurcu stated that „Moldtelecom works in the spirit of social responsibility and carries out charitable activities in the social assistance and human resources development areas, trying to be a positive example to other people”

In his turn, Mr. Gheorghe Gherștega thanked the national operator and its administration on behalf of all the beneficiaries, mentioning the importance of the possibility to communicate for the people living at the Asylum.

**! Campaign**

**In April a campaign will be launched to raise the public awareness regarding the employment of blind people**

In April the campaign of raising awareness of the potential employers of persons with visual disabilities will start, aiming to facilitate their professional employment. This campaign will include information and activities promoting their creativity, talent, studies and experiences. Thus awards will be presented to those employers, journalists and people that have the force to overcome these stereotypes and employ them, as well to place these people in the public space. The Gala of Awards will take place in November, on the International Day of Sightless People.

According to the data provided by the Moldovan Society of Sightless People, at the moment there are about 9 thousands persons with visual disabilities. 5% of them have high education, 10% - professional studies and 15% - secondary education studies. 40% of them are blind people (more than 3600 persons) and just 14% of them use the reading and writing dotted Braille system. It is estimated that about 3000 persons would be able to work, if the potential employer adapted their work place with assistive programs (PC display reader, letter/image enlarge, Braille display, mobile phone display reader etc.)

About 20% of them are already employed, including 2% work at companies and specialized organizations for people with visual disabilities, predominant people with weak sight with the 2nd or 3rd disabilities grade. The sightless people employment rate is still extremely insignificant. About 2% of them are employed only at the specialized institutions/organizations for sightless people. In the last decade, the number of student with visual disabilities has risen at the universities.

According to the international experience in the professional inclusion, a person with visual disabilities can perform selective and protected professional activities from the following fields: Verbal communication (phone operator (call centre), verbal translation, customer service, touristic guide, presentation of activities, educator/assistant, nurse (therapeutic education), consultant (attorney, psychologist etc); Welfare assistant (massage, physiotherapy); Informational Technologies (IT)/assistive programs: programmer, PC operator, secretary); packaging/assembly (food products/merchandises), electrical wires, lighting objects, pallet/wooden box, caps, upholstery); Agriculture (horticulture, Vegetable Growing, Beekeeping, Zootechnics, Poultry, mushroom cultivation etc); Redaction (text redactor, Braille redactor, projects/reports development etc); Music (vocal perform-

ance, musical instrument manufacturing/accord); Handicraft (embroidery, crocheting, braiding in straw/ osier, brush manufacturing, sewing etc); Management (project coordinator, business development etc.).

Till the moment we have 470 applicants registered with the will to be employed. The CVs and the application forms should be put at the disposal of the potential employers hands. The candidates registration will last till November 2011.

The Component of Professional Employment is part of the programme for the Assistance in Business and Employment for

Sightless People. Launched in 2010, this is a pilot project assisting the professional employment and business development for blind and weak clairvoyant persons. The program aims at creating an institutional framework for professional inclusion, promoting their professional potential and increasing the level of financial independence. This project is implemented in partnership with the National Agency for Workforce Employment, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Euromol and is financed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



# The future begins at home

Seven residential institutions from Fălești, Ungheni and Călărași raions will be reorganized in the framework of the „Protecting children in Moldova from family separations, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation”.

## ... To the benefit OF CHILDREN



*The importance of the reform for the child protection system, as well as for the society in general, was the main discussion topic with some specialists involved in the reform process.*

**Iulia PANCU,**  
*Director of the Directorate for Education,  
Youth and Sports, Ungheni*



The reform of the residential care system for children could not be avoided and disputed by anyone anymore. This is the moment when we have to interfere in order to adjust some features according to the society's needs. No one disputes the fact that every child needs a family, that the family is the most beneficial environment for the child's growth and development. During many years, erroneously, this family mission had been attributed to the government. This is how a huge network of residential institutions was developed; these institutions proved to be inefficient.

The reorganization of the residential care system requires us to ensure that children in alternative care are provided with services that are close as possible to the family environment. In Ungheni a lot of actions have been made and continue to be made. Thus, in the case of the Sculeni Auxiliary school we can talk about some real results, this institution being at the end of the first year of the reform. We are glad that with joint efforts we succeeded to change the attitude of the residential institution's staff, also of those from the mainstream schools were the children were integrated. Those specialists that, until recently, were the reform's opponents, now they are partners of the social changes made in the best interest of children. We try also, through different methods, to get the community ready to accept and integrate children from the boarding schools.

**Vladimir CARP,**  
*Superior Inspector of the minors and manners group, Police Station Călărași*



I could say from my own experience that young people who have lived many years in

a residential care institution face enormous difficulties to reintegrate in the society. Due to the fact they cannot find their place in life, a lot of them are potential victims of human trafficking and of different forms of violence. There are also young people that come to the attention of the police committing different crimes.

Isolation of children without parental care in special institutions does nothing more than creating severe social problems in the future. This is because many of these young people are still a burden for the society after graduating the residential institutions.

We care about these children's fate and we want them to as little as possible to get in trouble with the police. We think this is possible only if children are raised in families, the place where the best education basis is put, for the rest of their lives.

The Călărași Police Station got actively involved in the residential system reform. The police inspector, together with mayors, social assistants, teachers from the locality belong to those work groups in charge with the evaluation of the families where the children have to be placed

**Arcadie PLEȘCA,**  
*The Boarding School for orphans and children without parental care,  
Director, Ungheni*



I will have to admit that at the beginning our institution staff was rather reluctant towards the reform proposed by our partners. The teachers, educators, engaged staff didn't believe in the further fate of the institution and children they have to look after.

The few trainings we had and open discussions as between reliable partners, helped us to accept that the residential system reform is inevitable. We understood, that we, the staff of the institutions, will not lose our jobs; we will still have the possibility to work actively in the framework of the social services system for children or families in difficulty, or within the regional educational system.

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Now together with the 'EveryChild experts and local public authorities we are looking for the optimal choice for the reorganization of this institution, so it can continue to operate in the interest of the society. We would like to remark that the boarding's school building can host up to 500 people. After discussions together with the institution's staff, it has been proposed to establish a creation center for children. Another suggestion was about the establishment of a centre that offers educational services for preschoolers, taking into account the big lack of kindergarten .

We suggested also the creation of a temporary placement centre for children and families in difficulty. The final decision has to be adopted by the local public authorities.

**Elena GONTA,**  
*Deputy Chief of the Directorate  
for Education, Youth and Sports,  
Călărași*

The residential institutions from Călărași raion today host about 200 children. Another few dozens children from the raion are placed in the institutions from the neighboring rayons.



Being aware of the fact that every

child has the right to a family, the Călărași Raion Council has fully integrated into the residential system reform process. We aim to carry out an evaluation of all the institutionalized children and their families, and determine the causes of children being placed in the boarding school. In the most of the cases we trust that the integration of children in their biological or extended families will be possible. In the cases when the reintegration is not possible, we will identify solutions offering conditions as close as possible to the family environment. Our task is, in the near future, to succeed to organize a social services system satisfying the needs of all children in difficulty.

We are to develop the foster care system, to open new family-type children's homes and strengthen the family support services.

**At the moment, in Călărași there are only two family-types children's homes and one centre for children in difficulty. We are aware that the existing services can not deal with all the problems and we are looking for solutions for their extension.**



## The state has to ensure a safe family environment for every child

**The** reform of the residential care system and development of the system of alternative services provided to children in difficulty were the main topics in the „Moldova in direct” TV show, with the participation of the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga, the Ministry of Education, Mr. Mihail Șleahțișchi and „EveryChild” Communication and PR manager, Mr. Anatol Mamaliga.

According to Mihail Șleahțișchi, the national strategy and national action plan focused on the educational system reform has to ensure till 2012 the decrease with 50% of the number of children placed in the residential institutions. During 2007-2010, the number of the children institutionalized has decreased with about 40%, in this period 8 residential institutions were closed , and one was transformed in a complex of alternative social services.

Mr. Mihail Șleahțișchi revealed *”The biggest problem of the boarding schools and other similar institutions is that they isolate the child from a world where natural phenomena and evolutions are taking place. It is very important that through different social inclusion mechanisms the children in difficulty are brought back to a normal social environment”*. Mrs. Valentina Buliga in her turn, mentioned that in 75% of the cases, the main reasons of placing a child in a residential institution are family poverty and parents irresponsibility.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga also said that *”The family from the Republic of Moldova was severely affected by the poverty, lack of jobs. Also in some cases, the family values also disappeared, leading to a bigger number of children placed in the boarding schools. After the reorganization of the residential care system, the state has the duty to offer these children serv-*

*ices to replace the ex- residential care system, to support the family”*.

From another point of view, Mr. Anatol Mămăligă emphasized a complete opening for the reform both from the local and central authorities. *”The things missing are the mechanism of redirection of the financial resources from the budget of the Ministry of Education in the process when the child is reintegrated in the community, in the family and as well as in the mainstream school. At the moment, these are the biggest problems, but not due to the central authorities unwillingness or reluctance, but because all the mechanism have not been yet investigated and coordinated”*.

At the moment, the majority of the available resources for the children social services are attached to the residential institutions, despite of the well-known government interest to develop alternative services. The state keeps spending huge sums of money maintaining a system that raise graduates incapable to integrate in the society.

In this context, Mrs. Valentina Buliga revealed that the mechanisms for redirection of the financial sources from residential institutions towards the alternative care system, are not yet part of any laws or regulative acts. The mechanism will be developed within the framework of the EveryChild's Project, with the help of the specialists of the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family and Ministry of Finance.

Talking about the alternative services for the deinstitutionalized children, the TV show participants stated that the present system include forms like guardianship and trusteeship, family-type children's homes, foster care and, as the last option, placement in a residential institution.



## The reform is impossible without an efficient system of social services

**The** residential system reform requires the development of community social services for children and families in difficulty. The state policy and the experience of the organizations that work in this field, proved that the majority of problems faced by these social classes can be solved at the community level. The typology of social services and the system of cooperation between all relevant organizations were the topics discussed topics at the seminar „Community social services in communication with mass-media and advocacy campaigns” that took place on 24-26 March 2011. The seminar was organized by EveryChild in partnership with the Government of Republic of Moldova, and brought together the specialists from the Călărași, Ungheni and Fălești raions.



**Stela GRIGORAȘ,**  
**Director**  
**of Everychild**  
**Moldova**

Both in the third sector activity, and in the state's policies, a focus is placed on the development and consolidation of community social services. We are very pleased to have community social workers in all our country's localities. These specialists received a large training program, and now it is time to use their potential in the benefit of the communities. The experience proves that the majority of the child and family social problems can be handled and solved at the community level, because first of all, there are opportunities to assess and identify the beneficiaries – the child, family, at a precocious stage and also, to quickly intervene in the situation of difficulty. We believe, that if the community social services are operational and efficient, they would be able to cover about 70-80% from child's and family's needs at the community level.

It is very important to mention that these services are cost-efficient, in comparison with the specialized services, residential institutions that are expensive and inefficient for the child's development.

The community social services represent the first level of the integrated system of social services. These are the services that have to be offered to the whole society of children and families, with a particular attention paid to the vulnerable people. The second level of the social services system is represented by the specialised services, first of all, for children that risk to be separated from their parents. The local public authorities try to develop for these children a wide range of family based alternative care services. In this sense, we can mention foster care services, family-type children's homes, guardianship, and national adoption.

The specialized services are those who should be offered to a smaller number of children, in other words, from different reasons, to those children that can not live with their families. We are glad that we have registered some progress in this domain, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

The third level of the integrated system of social services is represented by the highly specialized services. This level is over developed at the moment; our country has a lot of residential institutions, much more than the existent necessities in our country. This service level is very expensive, less efficient and, unfortunately, takes all the financial resources assigned for the social protection system.

**Ludmila GUZUN,**  
**Vice- President, Ungheni rayon**

Recently, the Ungheni Raion Council has approved the social services strategy, developed with the support offered by EveryChild. This document will allow us to develop a range of social services, giving us the ability to respond to the needs of children and families in difficulty. In Ungheni foster care is well developed, last year a new service was launched - the emergency foster service, where we can place children for a short period of time, even without the decision of the commission for the protection of the child in difficulty (gate-keeping commission). In the raion at the moment there are 20 foster care professionals, with 4 carers more than last year. Our objective is to strengthen the system of the family-type children's homes, which allows us to have some flexibility in placing a bigger number of children.

Another service for children and families in difficulty offered by the Ungheni raion

authorities is the family support, including some financial support to families. This year, for this service supplementary financing was identified so that the beneficiaries could enjoy a more substantial support.

The placement centres for mother-and-baby couples activating in Ungheni raion, is another important service that solves multiple problems. The unit's specialists work as a team in order to prevent the child at birth abandonment. In Ungheni there are also various day care centers for children at risk. It is about the „Casa pentru toti” Centre that offers services to children with special needs „Credo” Centre that support teenagers and young people that can not integrate in the society, „Făclia” youth centre etc.

**Vasile TIMOFTI,**  
**Călărași rayon**  
**Vice-President,**  
**National Council**  
**for child right's protection and family in**  
**difficulty, Director**



In the Călărași raion work an integrated system of social services is in place. In this context we would mention the local child right's protection commission, where trained community social workers are also involved. Lately, we have undertaken efforts to enhance these specialists' prestige and status, as people that have the most important role in solving child protection problems. In the child protection system there are also involved other services like the school, centres of family doctors', legal services, commission for minors, raion commission for child right's protection etc.

At the moment in the raion there are 2 residential institutions that host over 200 children. About 60 children are placed in residential institutions in other raions. The raion's budget spends about 25 thousands lei a year for a child in residential care. The efficiency of these institutions is disappointing. according to the desinstitutionalization strategy, we have to create new alternative care services for children. At the moment we have several family-type children's homes and their number will be extended in the future. Lately, we started to focus on the selection and training of foster care professionals; this service is to be expanded in the nearest future.

## The residential institutions staff trained to perceive properly the reform of the system

The residential system reform is impossible without the institutions' staff involvement. The success of the transformations depend a lot on their attitude. Taking into account this desiderate, EveryChild launched a range of training seminars for the staff from the residential institutions from Călărași, Ungheni and Făleşti raions, that are part of the „protecting children from family separation, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation” Project. 3 seminars took place on the 9-11 March 2011 having as a main topic for the discussions the basic children' needs and the typology of social services provided to children.

The project pilot sites team leader, Mrs. Mariana Lupascu stated that „During the reformation process, it is very important that the

institution staff does not to feel marginalized, but to be fully involved all project's activities. People that have worked all their lives in the residential system, from now on also have to find a job, either in the educational system or in the social assistance one”.

The objective of this activity was to inform the institution's staff on the range of social and educational services that are being developed and that have already been established at the community and raion level by the social assistance and education directorates. Another objective of these trainings would be changing the staff's point of view towards the reform itself. The residential institutions staff have to be informed and to become aware that the family environment is the most beneficial for a child.

## Working techniques applied in supporting families and children in difficulties

A group of specialists in the protection children's right from Făleşti, Ungheni and Călărași raions participated, on the 16-18 March 2011, at a training seminar on the problems of work methodology with family and children in difficulties, organised by EveryChild and supported by USAID, in the framework of the Project „Protecting children in Moldova from family separation, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation”.

A number of specialists from the Social Assistance and family Protection Directorate, Education, Youth and Sports Directorate, Inspectors for Minors from the Police Station participated at the seminar.

The trainers Elizaveta Iurcu, Silvia Tocari and Maria Calchei, experts in problems of children and family in difficultis, facilitates a discussion on the case management and family support and reintegration services, but also about work methods applied in supporting families and children in difficulties.

The EveryChild t pilot site team leader, Mrs. Mariana Lupascu stated that „The local specialists are also trained in organising and carrying out so-called family conferences. At these meetings all the extended family members participate and they s talk about the possibilities to support the child whose in difficult situation or about the possibilities of the family to reintegrate their child from a residential institution. This may be a new method in our country, but it is widely and effectively used in countries like New Zealand, United Kingdom etc.”.

The first attempts in Moldova to organize family conferences were carried out in Ungheni and Orhei raions, and specialists talk about

the high level of efficiency of this type of meetings. Another work method, learned by the specialists at the seminar, is called self-support groups. The target groups for this method could be children, adults, disabled persons, etc.. During the seminar the participants became familiar with the method of organizing self-support groups for parents with children in the residential institutions. The project's initiators have the objective to organize a parents' school where the participants could discuss about the loss of attachment between children and parents, about the negative aspects of institutionalization, about children's basic needs etc. The psycho- pedagogue- at the „ Casa pentru toti” day care center from Ungheni, Mrs. Maria Calchei stated that „The parents will listen to the information provided by the specialists, and also they have the possibility to share their own experiences related with placing a child in a institution or his/her desinstitutionalization”.

Children from Călărași, Ungheni and Făleşti raions will have an Advisory Board that will allow them to express the problems they face directly in front of the administration of the raion social assistance and protection department.

## Children from three raions will have an Advisory Board

After a competition at which dozens of children participated in each raion about 15-20 children were selected to represent the new generation's voice. This initiative is part of the „Protecting children in Moldova from family separation, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation” Project, implemented by EveryChild Moldova and funded by USAID.

The EveryChild's child participation expert, Mrs. Natalia Semeniuc, stated that „The Children Advisory Board is a form of association of children and young people, that allow them to express their opinions and carry out their own projects that fulfil the specific needs and interests of their communities. The children participation is a shift from perceiving the children just as simply „beneficiaries” of the adult's actions, towards seeing them as active citizens with recognized rights, that have the chance to intervene actively in modelling their own lives.”.

The Children Advisory Board includes children between 12-17 years, with or without care experience in the residential institutions, in other care forms (foster care, family-type childre's homes, guardianship), with parents working abroad, children with special needs, but also children from the community schools.

The Children Advisory Boards' members with regularity will participate at the local meetings where decisions on children future will be taken, they feeling free to add recommendations or suggestions for the improvement of the child protection system. The young consultants will be taking part also in the process of assessing the needs of children in residential care or at risk to be separated from their families, as well as in the monitoring and evaluation of local policies and programs focused on the promotion of children's rights.

The Children Advisory Boards also will help to develop and implement at the local level the monitoring and evaluation framework of the UN Guidelines of Alternative Care for Children.

In early March, the Children Advisory Boards' members participated at their first training, the topic being the Respect for Children's Rights.



## In the Singerei the Common Office for Information and Services was launched

The Common Office for Information and Services Singerei was launched within the framework of the UN Women Program „Women’s economical empowerment through increased employment opportunities in the Republic of Moldova”, which is implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family and the Ministry of Economy, with the support from the Government of Sweden.

In 2010, the Singerei raion was chosen as a pilot raion from those 4 raions, for the implementation of the activities of the UN Women Program at local level, approaching the needs of the rural and sub-urban populations, especially women. One of the program’s key goals is the improvement of the access to information and quality services in the field that contribute to the women economical empowerment.

From this point of view, the Common Office for Information and Services was suggested as an innovation for improving women and men access to information and quality services, especially for those from rural communities. The office brings together service providers from public and private sectors, civil society under the aegis of the Raion Administration in order to provide information and services in a coordinated manner in fields such as: employment, social protection, agriculture, cadastre, business initiation and development.

The Common Office for Information and Services operates from October 28th, 2010 and already has obtained positive results in its activity. The office is opened every Thursday between 09:00 a.m-12:00 p.m in the building of Singerei Raion Council, being available for women and men, young people and elders. First mobile visit was carried out in the Chișcăreni village.

The Head of the Singerei Social Assistance and Family Protection Directorate for , Mrs. Tatiana Sincovschi presented at



the launching event the results achieved since the opening of the Office and specified that immediate solutions that are given at the visitors questions, updated information with detailed explanations, the consolidation

the economical women empowerment possibility, especially those from the rural areas.

The Vice-Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family , Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc being present at the Office

**“Women economical empowerment through improved employment opportunities in the Republic of Moldova” is a UN Women Program (United Nations for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Organization), supported by the Sweden’s Government with a total value of 2.9 mln USA dollars.**

of the service providers capacities, the „Mobile Team” service development in order to meet the rural population needs, represent the opportunities of the Common Office for Information and Services at local level and

launching, mentioned that Office’s functionality is pleasing, because women from rural areas are vulnerable due to the high level of unemployment.

Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc said that „Providing information and

services in order to identify job opportunities or women self-employment represents a priority for the state, inclusively in the framework of the current Government Program, that contains a separate chapter focused on the gender equality and non-discrimination in the labour market, as well as raising the quality of the provided services”.

During the event a Memorandum of Understanding was signed at the local level to ensure the Common Office for Information and Services functionality among the service providers from the Raion Council, de-concentrated services in the territory, private entity „GarantInvest” and civil society

### Brief information on the program

“Women economical empowerment through improved employment opportunities in the Republic of Moldova” is a UN Women Program (United Nations for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Organization), supported by the Sweden’s Government with a total value of 2.9 mln USA dollars.

The three basic program components are the improvement of the access to information and quality services, consolidation of the key partners capacities in implementing policies that protect and promote women’s rights at employment and social protection, and improvement of the legislative and regulatory framework.

The implementation period is 2010-2013 and the activities will take place both at local and national level. Women, key service providers, local and national public authorities and media institutions are the target-groups of the program. Until the end of the planned implementation activities will be carried out in 28 raions, with started activities in 2010 in Singerei, Nisporeni, Telenești and Cantemir.

Releases

## The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family launched the Project „Health Services and Social Assistance – Software application for the automation of the informational system „Social Assistance”

The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned at the press conference organized for this occasion, that the creation of the automatic informational system „Social Assistance” is one of the main priority objectives of the „Improving the efficiency of the social assistance system in the Republic of Moldova” Program.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga said that „As a partner for carrying out this objective is the World Bank that offered a support of 5 mln USA dollars, according to the financing agreement between the Republic of Moldova and International Association for Development on financing the „Health and social assistance services” project.

According to the Minister, the project’s objective is creating an efficient and modern work tool, in order that the employees from the social assistance field to identify better poor people, to have the necessary information for making good decisions, both in providing social benefits and in identifying and implementating of the correct social services.

The main parts of this project are the creation of a consolidated database of all social assistance providers, so that targeting becomes possible in the technical sense, as well as providing computers and training of social workers who will collect the needed information to target the social assistance according to the needs and provide various social services.

Computers will be purchased for the social workers, inspectors and quality assurance staff at the raion level, for about 1500 persons, that will facilitate social workers’ work in introducing the information on the individual cases they work with and on the group work in the central level database.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga also informed that for the implementation of the ap-



plication, based on a competition, the MATERNA GmbH Consortium from Germany and Conseil Sante SA from France have been selected, that was appreciated and approved by the World Bank as one which fulfilled all the mandatory requirements for this system.

During the press conference, the MATERNA GmbH Operations Direc-

**The project will be carried out in 2011-2012 and has as an objective the capacity improvement of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, in order to manage in an efficient and transparent way the social services and cash benefits.**

**The** project’s objective is creating an efficient and modern work tool, in order that the employees from the social assistance field to identify better poor people, to have the necessary information for making good decisions, both in providing social benefits and in identifying and implementating of the correct social services.

tor, Mr. Andrei Grosu said that “MATERNA has a long term experience in the development and implementation of this type of solutions for the public sector. It is very important that the public institutions informational system is automatic, in order to help them to face the new challenges and ensure their efficiency”.

*In order to reach this goal, the project will be divided in seven important stages:*

1. The development of the new functional model and procedures on rights performance in the social assistance field.
2. The development and modernization of the quality control mechanisms.
3. The development and implementation of the budgetary functions, accounting and statistics.
4. Training on application usage for the Ministry’s management team, IT specialists and for final users.
5. Delivery of technical and users documentation.
6. Complete system integration.
7. Warranty services.



## **A new round of negotiations in the labour migration field took place in Chisinau**

During 2-3 March 2011, at the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family a new round of consultation took place on the Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and Italian Governments in the labour migration domain, and on the Implementation Protocol of the mentioned Agreement between the Republic of Moldova and Italian Governments in the labour migration domain.

The conversation between the representatives of Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family and the Italian Ministry of Labour and Social Policies focused especially on identifying and optimization of the technical conditions of carrying out the Implementation Protocol of the mentioned Agreement.

It should be reminded that on 15-17 December 2010, in Rome similar consultations took place, during which all the parties have reached a consensus on the stipulated terms in the Agreement and its Implementation Protocol Project.

## **The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga has a meeting with the representative of the Turkish Company „SUMMA” , Mr. Mete Bora**

The United Nation Population Fund resident in Moldova, Mr. Boris Golcã also was present at the meeting. The discussions were focused on the identification of the possibilities to organize a Regional Congress on the aging problems in autumn 2011 and with the participation of internal and external partners.

In this sense, Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned that one of the priorities is the population aging phenomenon that led the Government of the Republic of Moldova to pay more attention to it, improving social protection of elder people, their life quality and increasing their access to qualitative services.

The academics squalifies the population as being old, if the rate of persons of 65 years or older represents 7% from the total population . For our country the official statistical data shows that this limit was passed in the periods previous to 2000 year, as the proportion of this group was estimated at 9,4%, at that moment already the country's population was classified as an old one.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga also mentioned that the population's problems are a priority in Ministry's activity, as they mix the demography evolution aspects and the necessities of raising the human capital capacities, and are used as a basis in designing national development programs, including the social protection.

Through the objective of creating conditions for the population growth in the Republic of Moldova, we plan to invest in Moldova and efficiently manage the material resources for the implementation of the active occupancy policies, the support of the social services, education and health, the protection of the socially vulnerable groups etc, as these are the main areas that determine the welfare of the population.

Also Mr. Mete Bora and Mr. Boris Golcã agreed and accepted the proposal to be the ministry's partners in the organization and carrying out a regional meeting focused on the aging problems.



## **The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga met Mr. Georg Reibmayr, the Attaché of The Labour, Social Relationships and Consumer Protection Department at the Austrian Embassy in Chisinau**

The discussions focused on the identification of domains and modalities of collaboration between Moldova and Austria.

Mr. Georg Reibmayr reiterated the Austrian Government's availability to consult and support the Republic of Moldova in carrying out reforms in the following areas: labour, social assistance, social insurance, the disabled people inclusion etc.

Mr. Reibmayr said that "After the identification of the priority areas, the Austrian Embassy in Chisinau will organize a number of trainings for the ministry's and subordinated institutions staff".

In her turn, Mrs. Valentina Buliga men-

tioned that Austrian experience is very important for our country, especially the reforms progress through the quality of the carried out processes. In this sense, the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family forwarded the Austrian Social Ministry the priority areas of mutual collaboration.

Mrs. Minister also said that "We would love to have the Austrian support in successfully implementing the reforms in the labour market, social assistance, social insurances, demography, disabled persons integration, poverty struggle, protection of families with children, the return of the migrants in the country etc. We also would like to thank you for your support and col-

laboration in the development of the social protection area based on European values and principles".

The Attaché for Labour, Social Relationships and Consumer Protection from the Austrian Embassy in Chisinau also met the ministry's subdivisions directors, for a wider needsdescription and identifying the collaboration priority areas.

Mr. Georg Reibmayr also informed the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family that at the Embassy the Attaché's Office for Labour, Social Relationships and Consumer Protection will be inaugurated in the nearest future.



### **Disabled people and the families of the deceased participants at the Afghanistan war and those from the Nistru armed conflict, received an unique financial support**

**O**n the 15th of February, about 300 disabled people and families of the participants at the Afghanistan War received financial support, in the day when 22 years ago the military forces were withdrawn from this country.

Meanwhile, other 400 disabled participants and families of the deceased persons at the Nistru armed conflict received an unique financial support on the 2nd of March, the commemoration day of the launch of the conflict.

Through the local funds for social support of the population, the Republican Fund for Social Support of the Population offered these people 500 lei each, according the lists compiled by the local public authorities.

The Administrative council of the Republican Fund for Social Support of the Population recommended to the Administrative Council of the Chisinau Municipal Fund to support these citizens through their own financial sources.

### **The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family hosted the Club of Investigation Journalists**

**T**he discussions at the Club of Investigation Journalists meeting focused on the situation of the children without parental care, because of parents that work abroad, and the event special guest was the Minister of Labor, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga.

Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned that „*The problem of children without parental care is a priority for the Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family, due to the migration and poverty phenomena, that affected a lot the family institution in the Republic of Moldova, and thousands of children are left behind on their own*”.

Mrs. Minister also reiterated the role of mass-media, civil society, state organs and every citizen of this country in protecting and supporting children.

Another important subject approached by the journalists was the repatriation of children who are Moldovan citizens and remained without parental care in other countries.

### **The College Council of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family met in a regular meeting**

**A**t the meeting chaired by the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, and the President of the College Council, Mrs. Valentina Buliga, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Mihai Moldovanu and the Heads of the Directorates/Raion Directorates for Social Assistance and Family Protection also participated.

At the meeting also it was presented the report on the implementation of the provisions of the National Program regarding the creation of an integrated social services system for the 2008-2012, approved by the Government Decision nr. 1512, from 31.12.2008. The College Council also approved the Activity Plan for the current year of the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family.

The reporter Mrs. Viorica Dumbrăveanu, the Director of the Directorate for Family Protection and Children's Rights, mentioned that social assistance has the purpose to prevent, limit or remove the temporary or permanent effects of some circumstances considered social risks, that also could cause the marginalization or social exclusion of persons and families in difficulty.

In this respect, through the Government Decision Nr. 1512 from December 31st 2008 it was approved the National Program regarding the creation of an integrated social services system for the 2008-2012 period. The main goal of this program is the improvement of the lives of people in difficult circumstances is. The purpose of the Programme is to ensure fast extension of the community and specialized social services and also the significant

improvement of the efficiency and effectiveness of the highly specialized social services.

Combining the prevention and rehabilitation measures, as solving the cases at the community level before they get worse (and their solution to become more expensive), the system will become more cost-effective, will help all those who need social support and will have a positive effect on the quality of live of people in difficult circumstances.

In this sense, Mrs. Valentina Buliga specified that social services extension at the community level is an important source in the efficient implementation of the social policies. The community could intervene offering the professional systematic support, complemented with the community and interpersonal support.

The primary social services are directed towards the prevention or limitation of difficult situations, problem solving at an early stage, keeping the beneficiary in the family and community. The social services decentralization represents a favourable setting for community activation, resource and human efforts mobilization in solving about 80% of the social assistance requests.

Mrs. Minister said that carrying out the social protection measures is possible only in the condition of an organic cohesion, with the development of a comprehensive system of measures, especially those that strengthen the capacities of the staff from the social assistance system, develop long lasting partnerships with the civil society and develop fortified social services networks, especially at the community level.



## The opening of the Social Centre in Balti does not represent a danger for the population

Lately, there have been a lot of concerns expressed in mass-media by some citizens from Balti regarding the opening there a Regional Social Centre for persons affected/infected with HIV/AIDS.

The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family consider that the opening this Center in Balti does not represent a danger for the population, and the fears of the inhabitants are because of the low knowledge on HIV infecting ways.

In this context, it has to be mentioned that HIV can be transmitted only in three ways: sexual transmission, blood transmission and the transmission from the mother to its baby.

The HIV can not be transmitted through spit, sneezing, touches, hugs or hand shakings, using the same plates and cut-

lery. HIV infection is not possible to get in the swimming pools, using the common public showers, using the WC. Neither we can be infected by travelling in the public transport, walking on the same street, live in the same building or spending our free time in a park bench with HIV infected persons.

The tolerant attitude for the pain of the persons infected with HIV and AIDS will contribute to the disappearing of the superstitions on this infection ways of transmission, destroying their own phobias on this infection and create in the society of the understanding that they are also human, and the population must not isolate, discriminate and stigmatise them.

At the moment, about 6 thousands people infected with HIV/AIDS live in our country. In order to improve the quality

of life of these patients, decrease the morbidity and mortality rates through improving the adherence at the ARV treatment specific for the HIV infection, 4 regional centres for this citizenship will be inaugurated in the summer of 2011.

The institutions will be opened in Chisinau (for the Central areas), Balti (for the Northern areas), Comrat (for the Southern areas) and in Tiraspol (for the Transdnestrian areas). The selection of the localities was based on the high infection rates, registered in the last 6 years in Bălți, Chișinău, Comrat and Tiraspol.

The centres will also provide home services for the HIV infected persons, intervention services for persons in crisis situations and will work with the families and relatives of the HIV infected persons – in order



to promote their social integration.

We would also like to mention that the services developed through the regional social centres are very new for the Republic of Moldova; the need for these services is determined by the growing number of HIV infected persons in our country, while the social services for this group of people must be organized in the most efficient way.

## Each of the regional social centres for HIV/AIDS infected/affected persons will get a minivan

Each of those four regional social centres for HIV/AIDS infected persons from Chisinau (for the Central areas), Balti (for the Northern areas), Comrat (for the Southern areas) and Tiraspol (for the Transdnestrian areas) that will be inaugurated in the summer 2011 will get a minivan.

The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family received on February 24th the first 3 of 5 minivans planned.

The "Ford"-Tranzit" minivans were acquired from the grant sources of Global AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (eight round), through the Centre for Health Policies and Analysis (PAS Centre) and will be presented to the management of the regional social centres.

At the ceremony of the transfer of the first 3 minivans to the centres, the Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga said that one minivan will stay at the Ministry for a better implementation of the „Decreasing the HIV impact in the Republic of Moldova” Program in the framework of the Global 8th Round Fund grant. In this way we will facilitate the access to the quality monitoring of providing social assistance services to the population, including to



the HIV infected persons, and their families as well. The other two minivans will go to the beneficiaries from the regional social centres from Comrat and Chisinau as soon as the renovation building works will have ended, and the centres will have been officially inaugurated.

At the same time, the documents of the Balti and Tiraspol regional social centres minivans are being prepared at the moment. These will be managed by the Town Hall from Balti and AIDS Center from Tiraspol.

According to their future statute, the regional social centres will provide a wide range of services for in order to improve the life quality and reduce the morbidity and mortality rate of the HIV/AIDS infected persons through the improvement of the adherence ARV treatment specific for the HIV infection, arranging and providing home services for HIV infected persons, provision of intervention services for infected persons in crisis situations, active work with the family members and relatives of the HIV infected persons in order to promote their social integration.

In this sense, the PAS Center Director, Mr. Andrei Mosneaga and their necessity is due to the raising number of HIV infected persons in our country, and the social services for this category of population, must be organized as efficient as possible.

Partnerships

**The Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, in partnership with the Keystone Human Services International Moldova Association (KHSIMA), launched the Project „Inclusive Community - Moldova - financial support during the global crisis period”**

The Minister of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Mrs. Valentina Buliga mentioned at the launch conference that this project will support the social protection system reform for people with mental disabilities from the Republic of Moldova, contributing to a better social integration of these people. The project will contribute directly to the achievement of the objectives established in the Strategy on social integration of disabled persons (2010-2013) in the Republic of Moldova.

Mrs. Minister also said that project’s goal is to support the development of the social assistance community services in order to ensure the integration in families and the community of the desinstitutionalized children from the Boarding School for children (boys) with mental disabilities from Orhei, as well as to prevent new institutionalization cases.

With the received assistance from the „Emergency Fund” new services will be developed and strengthened, including 3 Community homes, 9 protected homes, 9 mobile teams, 26 foster care services, 30 „respiro” – type services for families looking after disabled persons, 30 specialized social assistance services, 48 pedagogical support services, 25 personal assistance services.

**With the received assistance from the „Emergency Fund” new services will be developed and strengthened, including 3 Community homes, 9 protected homes, 9 mobile teams, 26 foster care services, 30 „respiro” – type services for families looking after disabled persons, 30 specialized social assistance services, 48 pedagogical support services, 25 personal assistance services.**

Moreover, 90 families will be beneficiaries of a financial support for arranging the



personal space for children/young people in the reintegration process in the biological or extended family.

Other 136 children and young people from the Orhei Boarding School will be integrated in their biological or extended families or will be transferred in other community services, such as the foster care, protected homes or community homes. More of 800 children at risk to be institutionalised will benefit from support services in order to integrate in the community they belong to and to improve the quality of their lives.

And more, as a result of the social services development, it will be created more than 270 jobs for unemployed people, people with low income, pensioners.

The Director of the „Inclusive Community – Moldova” Program, Mrs. Ludmila Malcoci stated at the launching conference that the project, with the value of \$2,419,900, will last for 3 years and will be implemented with the financial support of the Soros-Moldova Foundation, being part of the „Emergency Fund” created by George Soros.

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