



ANNUAL REPORT 2016

LIVE UNITED™



United Way Romania



LIVE UNITED®

United Way's impact is due to its volunteers – people who wish to contribute with resources and expertise as members of the United Way Romanian Board. **We thank them for all their effort!**

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TOGETHER WE MAKE "THE CHANGE"

A child from a vulnerable family. A single mother, without income. A young man coming from the institutional system. Every one of them hopes for – and deserves! – a chance to fulfill their dream and live a better life.

At United Way Romania we strongly believe that the area and environment where people are born should not determine their destiny. We know that no organization alone can solve all the problems in a community. We need to intervene TOGETHER and every one of us must take action, in order to make a CHANGE.

Apart from governmental policies and investment programs, a society needs every one of us to move away from civic apathy and be involved, present and active, constantly contributing to the changes we want to see in the world.

UW Romania seeks more than temporary solutions. We envision integrated programs and bring together non-governmental organizations, companies, public institutions, individuals, donors and volunteers in activities meant to change lives and create prosperous communities.

This is the LIVE UNITED philosophy!

In 2016, support was offered by 70 companies, 3,000 individual donors, 39 major donors and 1,304 volunteers. Their involvement in our projects contributed to bringing change in the life of 10,605 children, youth and elderly people often confronted with education, health or economic problems.

The 2016 report presents the results and the impact of our activities. With each project, each donation, each volunteering action, a life was changed, and at the same time, a community became stronger and more prosperous. We thank every partner, donor and volunteer for their dedication and involvement!



Ș. Toader

Șerban Toader
President



Cristina Damian

Cristina Damian
Executive Director

United Way Romania is a Romanian foundation, affiliated with United Way Worldwide USA which has a network of almost 1,800 local organizations in over 40 countries.

Every year, corporate partner companies and their employees, donors and volunteers, contribute with \$5.09 billion and 25 million volunteer hours to create opportunities for a better life for all, making United Way the largest private nonprofit in the world.

Since 2004, United Way Romania (UWRo) supports social programs and initiatives that improve the lives of children, adults and elders at risk. Our work focuses on the three building blocks of a thriving community: access to quality **education**, good **health** and enough **income** to support a family. As a community convener, UWRo brings together a wide range of community partners – NGOs, businesses, public officials, community leaders, donors and volunteers – to coordinate their efforts and achieve collective impact.

VISION



Our vision is of strong, supportive communities committed to helping people reach their potential.

MISSION



Our mission is to improve the quality of life in our communities through individual giving, corporate giving, and volunteerism.

OUR WORK

- ✓ We enable social services NGOs to offer educational, health and income services to underprivileged people, so they can lead a better life.
- ✓ We engage a large and evergrowing number of companies, institutions, NGOs and individuals in CSR, philanthropic and volunteering activities.
- ✓ We work to empower and support civil society, in particular social services NGOs.
- ✓ We support government institutions in their efforts to build prosperous communities.
- ✓ We promote transparency and professionalism.

OUR VALUES

CARING FOR PEOPLE

We tap into the caring power of our community by mobilizing resources to change lives and to improve the quality of life for all people.

INTEGRITY

The integrity and reliability of each staff member, board member, volunteer and grantee is essential to the strength and success of our organization.

TRANSPARENCY

We are open, transparent and accountable for everything we do.

RESPONSIBILITY

We take responsibility for improving the community we are a part of and for improving the lives of those in need.

EFFECTIVENESS

We achieve real impact in our communities by efficiently addressing the most pressing issues and the most vulnerable groups, and by funding the worthiest organizations.

RESULTS IN 2016:

Through the involvement of our partners, in 2016 we helped

- 10,605** ● people – children and youth, families and elderly people whose issues stem from the education, health or the economic sector.
- 7,111** ● children from disadvantaged environments were encouraged to continue their studies and prevent school abandonment.
- 1,473** ● young and adults that were facing difficulties (i.e. young people from foster care centers, homeless people, single mothers, people with disabilities, parents and children from poor families) received help in order to better integrate into society, both socially and professionally.
- 2,021** ● children, adults and elderly people received social and medical care needed for a decent life.



“EDUCATION IS THE PREMISE OF PROGRESS, IN EVERY SOCIETY, IN EVERY FAMILY”, Kofi Annan

All children have the right to education, regardless of the environment they were born in. However, in Romania only a third of vulnerable children graduate primary school. If their parents struggle with everyday life, children’s education does not come as a priority. Without real opportunities and constant access to education, the majority of these children are at risk of becoming adults with economical difficulties, unable to support their families.

In United Way’s vision, school abandonment is not a child issue, but a community one. UWRo’s integrated intervention program called “Learn to succeed” involves all decisive factors in a child’s development (i.e. parents, teachers, key-members of the community, volunteers) to work together to solve the issue. When a child goes to school, the chance to succeed is not only his but reflects the entire community.

UWRo aims to provide disadvantaged children and young adults with the educational services they require. Children from vulnerable families are assisted to go to school and to improve their grades – they receive help with homework, educational materials and daily meals; they are involved in physical and extracurricular activities (trips, creative

workshops, etc.). Hospitalized children are helped to keep up with school through artistic and educational programs. Moreover, children with severe mental disabilities or autism receive the necessary aid for integrating in both school and society. Young persons who are enrolled in our programs are encouraged to continue their studies and to make progress, through tutoring and mentoring activities, *job-shadowing*, training and scholarships.

During **Parents’ Academy** meetings, we discuss the child’s need to be supported through educational activities, the importance of positive parental education, the implication and prevention of domestic violence and children’s rights.

During the **Teachers’ Academy** meetings, we debate the most appropriate pedagogical approaches when it comes to disadvantaged children, and we set the basis for real and constructive communication between parents and teachers.

In 2016, United Way Romania supported 7,111 underprivileged children, in order for them to continue their education.

RESULTS IN 2016:

- 4,764** ● children from poor communities were supported to go to school and kindergarten
- 2,197** ● long-term hospitalized children participated in educational programs and art therapy
- 365** ● children with autism spectrum disorders, severe mental disabilities or visually/hearing impaired) benefited from individualized therapy services, participated in educational activities and were helped to integrate in school
- 233** ● homeless children were helped with all the necessary legal documents required for kindergarten/school registration through the "Second Chance" program and were constantly monitored, in order to prevent school abandonment
- 598** ● teachers were prepared to work better and empathize with children and youth from vulnerable groups or those who come from underprivileged families
- 515** ● parents of children who were assisted to not abandon school, frequently participated in the Parents' Academy courses
- 1,029** ● children and parents from underprivileged communities have constantly participated in health educational sessions
- 200** ● children from disadvantaged settings and placement centers took part in physical activities or took diverse courses outside the institution



For Andreea and Luiza, 2016 has been an important year. Both beneficiaries of the project, 'Together towards future' – the girls were admitted into high-school! Andreea chose to study acting, in a specialized class at Dinu Lipatti high-school, while Luiza is one step closer to fulfilling her dream of saving the planet. She follows the 'Environmental Protection' specialization at Carol I highschool. This achievement is extremely impressive due to the fact that the girls did not have the best start in life. Andreea did not have a birth certificate when she started receiving the help of Mia's Children, a center who receives continuous support from UWRo. The organization solved several legal steps required so the girl could benefit from her constitutional right to basic education. In the first years of her life, Luiza lived together with her nine brothers in the insanitary basement of an apartment building. Today, both of them are following their dreams and fulfilling their potential.



When they entered the "School after School" program, many of the 36 children which live near the Pata Rat (Cluj) landfill did not know how to read or write. To make things worse, the ones that knew did not have the proper conditions or instruments to do their homework. In essence, the children were exposed to extreme poverty, living in improvised shelters, without any water or electricity. The situation did not discourage the social workers from 'Dezvoltarea Popoarelor' Foundation, who worked every day after school for 3 hours with each of these children. At the end of the program, the progress was clearly visible: the children were able to read fluently and were trained to be proficient at algebra. As a result, the group distinguished itself in school, with a number of award-winning children, going so far as to win two Romani language Olympiads.



In 2016, Radu and Iulian were accepted into high school. This caused great joy among teachers from Rut School, who had offered their utmost support and preparation over the past years. The two youth continued a success story in their family, which was started by their mother, Mădălina. She was the first to graduate from Rut School many years ago. Radu and Iulian are supported through UWRo projects, whether it is through school supplies, clothes, or shoes. Moreover, they are participating in a tutoring program which helps them improve their Math and Romanian grades, as well as preparing them for the Bacalaureate exam at the end of high school.







“TRUE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT ECONOMIC SECURITY AND INDEPENDENCE”, Franklin D. Roosevelt

In Romania, 8.5 million people are at risk of poverty and of social exclusion. Many families live without access to social aid benefits, without access to jobs nor real chances to rise above financial difficulties. Youth from foster care centers, single mothers, people with disabilities or homeless, face social exclusion, either due to low levels of education, or because they lack legal documents needed for employment and access to information.

Through United Way, young people and adults facing critical situations receive a chance to a better life, for themselves and for their families. For them, we developed an integrated program for social-economic intervention,

“On the road of self-reliance”, which provides access to real employment opportunities and transforms the beneficiary from an individual who is disadvantaged and dependent on social assistance, into an active member of society, who is financially independent. Program activities include specialized training, vocational and career-related counseling, skills development, workshops and individual work sessions on practical themes (i.e. how to make a CV, how to search for a job online, learning about a suitable interview conduct etc.) or *job shadowing* actions, through which a youngster shadows an employee during a work day. In 2016, we helped 1,473 young people, adults and parents with difficulties to integrate both socially and professionally.

RESULTS IN 2016:



SUCCESS STORIES



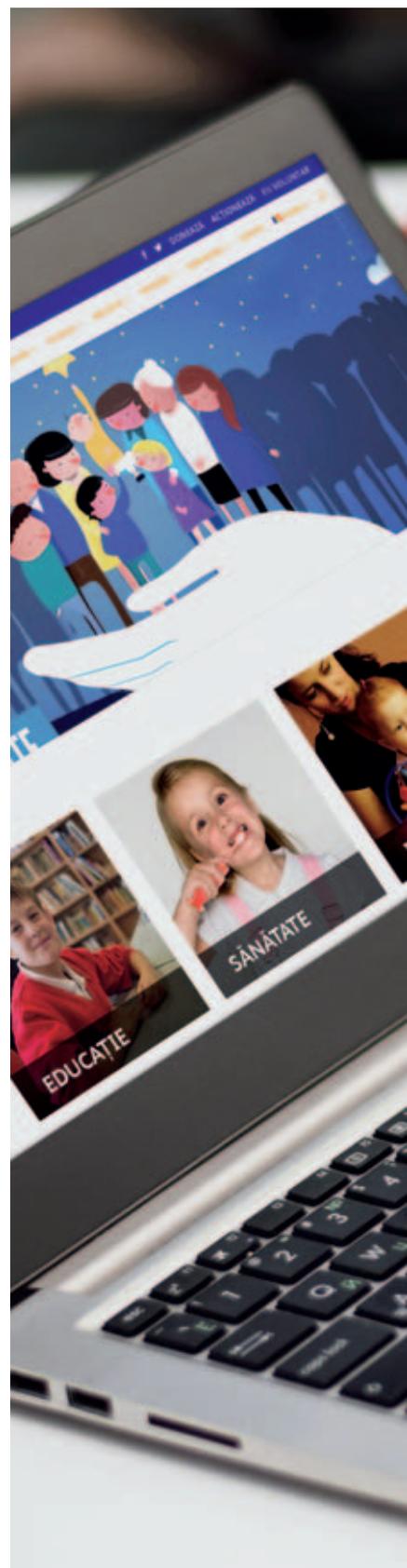
The M. family consists of both parents and four children. When they were first enrolled into the United Way program, they were facing a challenging economic situation. The father had not been able to find any job for 6 months, the mother was unemployed and a stay-at-home wife raising their 4 children in a social home, facing high debts for utilities. Moreover, both parents and one child had health problems. As such, the parents were registered with the Social Polyclinic no. 1 so they could benefit from free medical support. Through vocational counseling, they were helped to identify appropriate jobs for them and were supported in the search for a job. The father obtained a taxi-driving certification and was employed by a taxi company. The mother also obtained a qualification and was helped in finding a job, currently working in a factory. The two eldest children of the family, both teenagers, underwent qualification courses (manicure and hair-styling) which enabled them to earn income and contribute to family expenses, in parallel with their efforts to continue their studies. The youngest children also received scholarships for their impressive educational results, alongside school supplies and attended extracurricular courses. Within only a few months since they entered the program, the family's financial situation improved considerably.



The 6 members of the B. family – 2 adults and 4 children (aged between 2 and 7) – live in a single room. The parents are illiterate, but they wanted to register their twin daughters (7 years) at school. However, they did not know the procedure and were afraid of the costs involved in supporting the children in school all while being afraid they wouldn't be able to help them with their homework. They found out about the United Way program from some neighbors. As such, the two girls could be enrolled into preschool, where they participated daily in the homework program and were the first in class to learn how to read. The parents also underwent a literacy course. Because the family was also facing health issues they benefited from free medical assistance.



Mihaela is a single mother, a victim of domestic violence who chose to leave her troubled past behind and to make good decisions for her life and her son's Robert. She benefited from services provided by Casa Agar: shelter, financial and medical support, psychotherapy, tutorials, professional, parental preparation training and legal counseling. Only 6 months after joining the UWRo program, Mihaela passed the Bacalaureate exam, gained a qualification (in cosmetics) and found a job, continuing her way towards an independent life.







**HE WHO HAS HEALTH, HAS HOPE.
AND HE WHO HAS HOPE HAS EVERYTHING.** Thomas Carlyle

RESULTS IN 2016:

- 2,021 ● patients (children, young people, adults and elderly people) with low income now benefit from basic medical services and have received medical care
- 345 ● elderly people received home treatment
- 247 ● children with incurable illnesses received medical treatment

Health is an essential condition for a better life at every age. Through our projects we offer health services to vulnerable people from disadvantaged groups. Children, young people, adults and elderly people with health problems benefit from medical and social care at home. Terminally ill patients receive palliative care (pain control, psychological counseling for them and their families) in residential centers or in hospitals.

Moreover, United Way Romania supports prevention programs, in order to avoid serious health issues in disadvantaged communities.

In 2016, through the health prevention program, **“50 Healthy Steps in 50 Weeks”**, 50 nutritional unbalanced children, at risk of dropping out of school, from disadvantaged families experiencing poverty, benefited from a personalized food program and sport classes, twice a week. At the beginning of the project, the children have done a complete set of medical tests. Based on these, a physician and a nutritionist prepared a personalized diet, to correct the nutritional deficiencies and to insure a balanced diet, which has been monitored throughout the entire project. Twice a week,

for 50 weeks, the children were transported to Steaua Sports Club, where they participated for 2 hours in physical activities – handball, volleyball, rugby and football – being guided and encouraged at each session by professional coaches. Each child received 2 complete sports equipment, depending on the requirements of the sport practiced. At the end of the program, a new set of medical tests revealed the impact of this program on the children’s health.

The new values were better than the ones in the beginning, and confirmed the already visible progress. The children were no longer overweight, their general health condition was improved, they were more energetic and they were taller. Good changes have also been recorded at school, where better results were observed.

Health education for disadvantaged children was one of the causes supported by Carmen Brumă and another 550 runners during the Bucharest International Half-Marathon/ Marathon 2016. The funds raised at these 2 events have allowed the enrollment of 100 children, from underprivileged environments, in a health and sport program.



50 HEALTHY KIDS IN 50 WEEKS



The children's stories enrolled in the **"50 healthy steps in 50 weeks"** program can be considered successful. For every one of them, taking part in the program's activities has led to changes on all levels – physical development, school grades, behavior and mentality.

Ștefan stopped feeling tired at school ever since he started his first training, and at the end of the program he had significantly changed his eating habits. Andreea is convinced that due to her game technique – improved by volleyball training – her school team won a match against a rival team from Craiova. Florin quit eating sugary snacks and goes to bed earlier, while Mihai, who hardly accepted the invitation to join the program, for fear of being ridiculed because he was overweight, lost 10 kg. Two other children from the project were selected by coaches to continue their training alongside Steaua club's Rugby team, having real chances at a sports career.

HOME-BASED MEDICAL CARE



The monitoring bracelet received by Mr. C.B., as a beneficiary of the home telephone–assistance monitoring project, saved his life! In June 2016, when he had a severe respiratory crisis he pressed the panic button which triggered the emergency service dispatcher (112) and allowed the ambulance to arrive in time. The patient was hospitalized at Elias Hospital, where he remained under medical supervision for 7 days before returning home, where the 24–hour monitoring service allows his permanent observation.

The same remote monitoring system proved of great help for Ms. I.M., aged 78 years. While diagnosed with hypertension and with type II diabetes she lives alone. When she needs helps, she manages to press the panic button and the dispatcher immediately sends a nurse to provide specialized help.





“ONLY A LIFE LIVED FOR OTHERS IS A LIFE WORTHWHILE”, Albert Einstein

United Way Romania believes in the power of volunteering. This is the best way to make real, long-term changes in our communities. We can all contribute to promote well-being – individuals, employees, companies – and it is our duty to create prosperous communities, capable of sustaining its members in achieving their maximum potential.

RESULTS IN 2016:

- 1,304** • volunteers – employees of partner companies and individuals – have generously invested their time and knowledge, and helped us make positive and long-term changes our beneficiaries lives
- 5,100** • hours to volunteering. We thank them for working with us and for reminding us that heroes are part of our everyday life

100 VOLUNTEERS FROM METROPOLITAN LIFE HAVE JOINED US

100 volunteers, employees of Metropolitan Life, have joined us in 2016. They were involved in 3 major volunteering projects – **“We will grow up”**, **“On the road to self-reliance”** and **“Alongside you”** – developed to benefit children and young people helped by United Way Romania. More than 40 of the company’s employees offered their time, knowledge and energy to 100 children from four orphanages, supported by UWRo. For 7 months, children aged 3 to 18 have benefited from an intensive educational program within **“We will grow up”** project: interactive courses, and creative workshops, recreational trips, specialized courses, financial education and coaching workshops.

Supported by United Way Romania, the project **“On the road to self-reliance”** involved 73 volunteers from Metropolitan

Life, who provided financial education courses and career counseling for vulnerable youth. The project helps young people from disadvantaged families to get a stable job and become financially independent. By the end of 2016, 95 young beneficiaries were employed!

Developed by Metropolitan Life and United Way Romania, the project **“Alongside You”** received the award for the company’s best CSR project, at the People for People Gala in 2016. Meanwhile, Ciprian Lăduncă, CFO & Deputy General Manager of the Metropolitan Life received the Diploma of Excellence for his contribution to United Way Romania.

“Alongside You” stimulated the social responsibility of employees correlating business performance to a social projects competition on a national scale.

TUTORING AND MENTORING

In 2016, 60 Hewlett Packard employees invested 308 volunteering hours in UWRo's mentoring and tutoring programs. By developing one-to-one relationships with vulnerable people, who face major difficulties in everyday life, mentors have helped them raise their self-esteem, develop communication skills and set personal and professional goals that would help them overcome difficult moments.

Tutors helped children and young people, from families which face social and economic hardships, in their efforts to improve educational performance, helping them to develop writing, reading or arithmetic skills, do their homework etc. Through their involvement, tutors help us fulfill our mission: reducing school dropout rates and increasing the chances vulnerable children have for a better future.



THE CHARITABLE SHOPPING RACE

Organized in 2016 by United Way Romania, the first edition of **"The Charitable Shopping Race"** involved 57 volunteers. Employees from nine companies, journalists and bloggers registered in a race against time to help 14 underprivileged families from Bucharest and neighboring areas who wish a better future for their children.

Based on a pre-defined list of needs and within a budget donated by the represented company, each team of volunteers purchased everything that can help a family forget about tomorrow's difficulties and focus on the long-term plans: children's education, a stable job for parents and good health for all family members. Divided into teams of four and encouraged by colleagues the volunteers raced, for two hours, to fill the baskets with food, basic home appliances, personal use products or toys. The total value of the purchased goods within the first "The Charitable Shopping Race" was 63,000 RON.

Competing teams were made up of employees from *Carrefour*, *Centrade-Cheil*, *Cetelem*, *DLA Piper*, *IBM*, *Raiffeisen Bank*, *Raiffeisen Leasing*, *Veranda (Central European Financial Services)* and *Genpact Europe*.

Among those who volunteered were bloggers such as Anca Leibovici, Oana D. Botezatu, Alexandra Druță, Ariel Constantinof, Bianca Moruș, Andrei Vulpescu, Florin Grozea and Alina Aliman. Another United Way supporter who took part in the event was Diana Bart, Prima TV news-reporter, who handed the medals and diplomas to the winners at the awards ceremony.

The fastest competitors were the "Helpaholics" – the team formed of DLA Piper's employees. They managed to buy everything on the shopping-list in only 31 minutes and 36 seconds! The second place was occupied by the "Speed for Need" team from Raiffeisen, while the third place was occupied by the "United for Good" team, formed by the bloggers Alina Aliman, Oana Botezatu, Andrei Vulpescu and Bianca Moruș. In addition to DLA Piper's team effort, which had organized an internal fundraising campaign, notable was also the enthusiasm of IBM's Romania team had

57 VOLUNTEERS HAVE RACED TO PROVIDE A BETTER LIFE FOR UNDERPRIVILEGED FAMILIES



towards the project and their effort to supplement the allocated budget with over 700 Euros, from personal sources.

“It was the first time when I found shopping in a hypermarket fun and it even had a noble cause. After the event, I’ve ‘floated’ all day.” – said blogger Ariel Constantinof (arielu.ro) after participating in the first edition of the Charitable Shopping Race.

The same joy was felt by the beneficiaries, “It was one of the best days of my life. It is so good when you don’t have to worry about tomorrow, when you don’t have to be preoccupied with tomorrow’s food. I enjoyed everything that I got. When you see your children so happy, you don’t need another joy in life” – confessed Ms. L., a mother of three, after the event.



RENOVATIONS AT CASA PAUL AND SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES

Fifty volunteers from the *Citibank* Company and United Way and another 19 from *CONCORDIA* renovated Casa Paul. On the 11th of June, the volunteers painted the rooms and the halls, coated the fences and the gates, remounted the wooden flooring and illuminating devices in the counseling room and replaced the furniture in the others. The activities continued in the following days with a general cleaning and the installation of an alarm system with the help of a specialized firm.

Another group of volunteers from Eli Lilly renovated in July the entire counseling center of SOS Children’s Villages, organisation supported by United Way Romania. Spotted walls, old doors, cracked furniture, windows were replaced, and by the end of the day a more friendly and welcoming space, with clean rooms and inviting offices awaited the team. Moreover, the waiting-room was provided with a reading area for children and parents.

JOB-SHADOWING DAY AT DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON

For a disadvantaged and less experienced young person, a day spent observing a professional’s activities can be a chance to find one’s way in life. A group of young beneficiaries of United Way programs took part, for a day, in *job shadowing* at **Double Tree by Hilton**. Each of them accompanied a hotel employee in day-to-day activities in the reception area, restaurant or in the administrative department. The young people made such a good impression that they were offered the opportunity to continue with an internship.

WE UNITED OUR FORCES FOR THE PATA RÂT CHILDREN

In 2016, we managed to bring smiles on the faces of children living in extreme poverty, in close proximity to the Pata Rât (Cluj) landfill. In June, the singer Mihail, one of the children's idols from the "School after School" program, answered the invitation to come to the Traian Dârjan School and sing with the children. Adding to the benefit of the children that live in the Pata Rât area, volunteers from *Office Depot Service Center*, *EXL Service Romania companies*, *Rotaract Visio Cluj-Napoca* and *Thesaurus organizations* (which renovated in October the kindergarten "Țara Minunilor") united their forces as well. With open arms and drawers full of gifts and sweets, volunteers from *AROBS Transilvania Software*, *EnergoBit*, *Accenture Industrial Software Solutions Romania* and *Raiffeisen Bank Cluj-Napoca* welcomed the children who came trick-or-treating on Halloween.

JUNE WAS THE RAIFFEISEN BANK "MONTH FOR CHILDREN"

June should have been named the Raiffeisen Bank Romania "month for children"! The bank's employees dedicated June to fundraising. They managed to collect, for beneficiaries of the UWRo's projects, significant donations from over 650 colleagues. They organized sports and education projects events with over 35 volunteers: auction bazaar, basketball championship and origami workshop were among the most successful. In Timișoara, children celebrated their birthdays together with donors at a great mini party, and in Cluj the volunteers accepted the challenge to "laugh and be laughed at". Playing the "20 questions" game, they let themselves be transformed into Peter Pan, Snow-White, Bugs Bunny, Tarzan or Sylvester Stallone.

SAFETY ON INTERNET

Two volunteers from *Virtual7Romania* Timișoara talked to the children about internet safety and how to use the vast sources at their disposal. A group of 20 children from the SCOP's Educational Center project, "Children for Children" from Timișoara (supported by UWRo), were pleased to learn many new things from the volunteers, including how they can learn foreign languages using dedicated websites.

READ ACROSS ACCENTURE

For the children whose families struggle with daily difficulties, books are a rare joy. That is why the children in the UWRo's programs were so delighted when Pinocchio, Heidi and characters from Ispirescu's *Fairytales* came to life through the voices of *Accenture's* volunteers. In the offices in Bucharest, Cluj and Timișoara, Accenture's employees shared with the children they support through volunteering and donations the joy of discovering the power of knowledge.

We thank them for the books they have donated, and also the energy and time they spent with us!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND GIFTS FOR CHILDREN FROM UWRO PROGRAMS

For 128 children from Gymnasium School no. 15, Timișoara going back to school was a joyous occasion. The young received from *Continental Anvelope* Timișoara volunteers schoolbags, hand bags, pencil cases, notebooks, pencils, pens and color pens, which made learning hours happier and more interesting. Few months later, the volunteers from Continental Automotive Timișoara prepared some other 300 Christmas presents for children from the UWRo programs.

CHARITABLE CAROL CONCERT

The first Charitable Carol Concert of the *Lawyers' Choir* from Timisoara, organized for the benefit of United Way Romania, enjoyed success among the public. The organizers raised over 5,000 RON in donations, a sum to which another 2,000 RON was added, a contribution from the Lawyers' Bar Association Timiș.





DONATE YOUR BIRTHDAY

Celebrating a child's birthday is not a priority for the families that struggle with poverty. It is rare for a child coming from a disadvantaged family to be celebrated and to receive presents.

Forty-nine children in our programs had an unforgettable birthday in 2016. In fact, for many, it was the first time when they celebrated their birthdays.

We sang "Happy Birthday!" so many times thanks to Iulia, Nathalia, Raluca S, Raluca L, Alin, Laura, Vasi, Horia and Mihai. They all chose to donate their birthdays to children supported by United Way Romania. The funds collected exceeded 13,000 RON thanks to the donations made by 126 of their generous friends on the Galatom platform.

"When did we first started to measure our love by buying expensive things? Why can't we find anymore joy in little things? It was these questions that led me to the decision of donating my birthday for the benefit of the children who never had their fair share of attention. For them, celebrating a birthday would be the best present they have ever received. I wish that you, my friends, share my point of view and never forget that giving with all of our heart is in fact receiving. These children will celebrate for the first time their birthday and moreover, they will be supported to continue their studies – a difficult thing for them to do, given the financial struggle of their families" – wrote Horia in his message on Galatom.ro.

We thank all those who have donated their birthdays and to all their friends who understood that apart from quality education and decent living conditions, a child needs as many opportunities as possible to smile.



CREATIVE WORKSHOPS AND SHOWS FOR CHILDREN AT THE VERANDA SHOP AND STAY LAUNCH

At the launch of *Veranda Shop and Stay*, the atmosphere was animated for a week by United Way's activities – collage workshops and decorative objects, origami sessions, magic shows and acrobats on stilts, street theatre and musical moments.

The activities have been a part of a wider partnership between United Way Romania and Veranda Shopping Center, which develops community projects through education, socio-economic integration and health programs for children, young and elderly people from disadvantaged backgrounds.



CARMEN BRUMĂ AND OVER 550 UNITED WAY SUPPORTERS RAN FOR HEALTH EDUCATION



THE 2016 INTERNATIONAL BUCHAREST MARATHON AND HALF-MARATHON

More than 550 people ran in the United Way team at the 2016 Bucharest International Marathon and Half-Marathon, while another 100 chose to redirect a part of the competition registration fee to our cause: health and sport education for 100 underprivileged children. Ambassadors of the United Way cause were Carmen Brumă (TV producer), for the Half-Marathon on the 14th – 15th of May, while Sorina Fredholm (Creative Director World Class) and Mikael Fredholm (CEO World Class) represented UWRo for the Marathon on the 8th – 9th of October. All three accepted the status of ambassador, participating in a number of different races during the two events. Moreover, our ambassadors were directly involved in United Way's education and prevention initiative. Both Carmen Brumă and the Fredholm family organized sports and healthy nutrition lessons for some of the children who benefit from our project.

The companies which accepted to support our cause, health education for children coming from disadvantaged families at the 2016 International Marathon and Half-Marathon Bucharest are: Carrefour, Central European Financial Services, Citi, Dacris, Genpact, Kinstellar and Veranda. Among the ones that started the competition on behalf of United Way Romania was Steven van Groningen (President and CEO Raiffeisen Bank), Andrei Pogonaru (Central European Financial Services Partner) and Shibu Nambiar (COO Genpact Europe, Latin America and Africa).

From the funds raised at the two events, weekly subscriptions were purchased for swimming and aerobic trainings, sports equipment was sought out for 100 children, a day center was provided with sports gear and a one-day trip to the mountain side was organized for the children. In addition to sports, the children attended weekly workshops where they learned how to have a healthy lifestyle, starting with adequate nutrition, continuing with personal hygiene, rest, sports and a balanced program. The series of workshops included interactive healthy cooking sessions.

THE VIENNESE BALL IN BUCHAREST AND TIMIȘOARA

The Viennese Ball in Bucharest and Timișoara supported the programs of United Way Romania. *The Viennese Ball* in Bucharest is organized annually by *JW Marriott*, one of our long-standing partners and supporters. At its 11th edition in 2016, The Viennese Ball in Bucharest had guests from the business class and representatives of the diplomatic missions from Romania.

The show and the gala dinner were prolonged long after midnight. The prestigious Schönbrunn Palace Festival Orchestra Vienna was directed by Guido Mancusi, while Horia Brenciu and his HB Orchestra delighted the guests in the second part of the night, and the ballet and classical waltz moments were the highlight of the evening.

United Way is also an exclusive partner of *The Viennese Ball* in Timișoara since 2012, an event which redirects the funds raised annually towards the UWRo's programs. Since 2015, The Viennese Ball Foundation in Timișoara has chosen to become more involved in our organization's missions by launching the 'Edelweiss' campaign. In 2016, the charitable campaign "An Edelweiss for a Warm Lunch" ran from the 18th of October to the 25th of November and was an open invitation to all those who consider that 'giving', regardless the sum or purpose, is important in life. In return for a minimum donation of 10 RON, a cost which represents the price of one warm meal for a disadvantaged child, one could acquire an Edelweiss brooch. The Edelweiss had begun doing good deeds even before the ball. The brooches were manufactured by mothers from single-parent families with many children, thanks to the support of the CRIS-DU Aeropagus Association, an NGO which organizes social integration programs for people in difficulty.



2016 UNITED WAY GALA

WE REWARDED OVER 80 ORGANIZATIONS AND PEOPLE WHO CHANGE THE COMMUNITY FOR THE BETTER

At the 11th edition of the United Way Romania Gala, people and organizations who were involved in the United Way Foundation project, and who changed the community for the better were rewarded for their remarkable results.

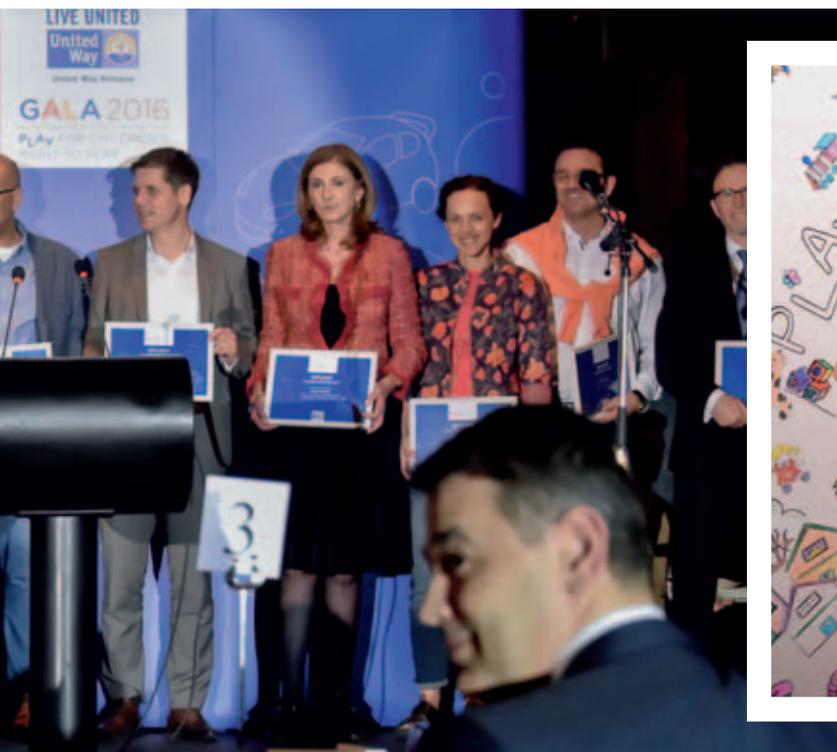
The event took place on the 24th of March, at the Radisson Blu Hotel and it was organized under the theme of *"Play for Children's right to Play"*. We wanted to emphasize the vital importance of a carefree childhood and highlight children's right to development and to quality education, in order to enjoy the best start in life. The approximately 200 participants, representatives of the private, public and nonprofit sector were reminded of an essential experience through which children discover the world: they play.

During the Gala's 2016 edition, United Way Romania granted 83 awards to 19 companies, 30 major individual donors, 22 volunteers and fundraisers, representatives of public institutions, professors and specialists from the nonprofit sector. The winners were chosen from a total of 100 partners – companies, nonprofit organizations and

institutions that supported the United Way Romania – and over 970 volunteers who contributed with time, knowledge and expertise to fulfill United Way's mission.

The event was presented by Irina Păcurariu (TVR) and enjoyed the presence of H.E. Thomas Baekelandt, Ambassador of Belgium to Romania, of H.E. Tamar Samash, Ambassador of Israel to Romania, Mr. Dean Thompson, Deputy Head of Mission at the US Embassy in Romania, and Mr. Laurențiu Ștefan, Presidential Adviser for Internal Policy.

Among the Gala's special guests were Tobi Ibitoye, one of "Vocea României" contest's finalists that is also an activist for human rights and Dana Rogoz, who was awarded for her involvement in fundraising activities for United Way causes.



United Way brings together all members of the community – individuals, companies, non-profit organizations, authorities – because only through their contribution we can hope to have a profound long-term impact and facilitate the necessary changes for a better society. Our approach is unique, and as a community convener we can mobilize and direct resources and efforts where are most needed.

In 2016, we collaborated with 70 companies, over 121 organizations, institutions and authorities, 3,000 individual donors and 39 major donors.

PLATINUM PARTNERS

over 100.000 Euro/year

Metropolitan Life, Raiffeisen Bank

GOLD PARTNERS

over 50.000 Euro/year

Mott Foundation, Profi Rom Food

SILVER PARTNERS

over 25.000 Euro/year

Accenture, Genpact, OMV Petrom, Raiffeisen Asset Management, Velux Foundations

BRONZE PARTNERS

over 10.000 Euro/year

The Viennese Ball from Timișoara, Castrol, DLA Piper, Lenovo, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK), Hongta Services, Raiffeisen Leasing, Synevo

PARTNER COMPANIES

up to 10.000 Euro/year

3M, Allianz Țiriac, AROBS, Asseco, Athénée Palace Hilton, Baroul Timiș – Uniunea Națională a Barourilor, British American Tobacco, BNP Paribas – Leasing, BNP Paribas – Cardif, Bucharest Running Club, Catena, Carrefour, Castrol, Centrade – Cheil, Central European Financial Services



(CEFS), Cetelem, Chance for Children, Citi Group, Clubul Sportiv "Asociația Alergotura", CMS Cameron McKenna, Continental, COTY, Dacris, Deloitte, Deltatel, Electronic Arts, Eli Lilly, EnergoBit, Equatorial, EXL Services, Fan Courier, Farmacia Tei, Fildas, Flex Romania, Gameloft, Hampton by



THE TOCQUEVILLE SOCIETY

The Tocqueville Society recognizes philanthropic leaders in all United Way communities. It was founded more than 30 years ago, recognizing and honoring the people who are preoccupied by the community they live in and who contribute annually to United Way with generous donations between 10,000 and 1 million dollars.

In Romania, the Alexis de Tocqueville Society was established in 2011, by Mr. **Steven van Groningen**. In 2016, the Tocqueville donors were:

Valeria and Steven van Groningen, Peter Weiss, Marian Dinu, Lidia and Dan Fați, Ioana Hațegan, Daniela and Șerban Toader, Călin Avram and Andrei Pogonaru.

LEADERSHIP DONORS

Joining MAJOR GIVING is not just about being a philanthropist, but about being a part of a group that cares, is responsible and has the will, the power and the ability to shape the future and to improve the life in communities.

We thank the major donors who supported United Way Romania in 2016 with a contribution of over 1,000\$: Alexandra and Matei Florea, Andreea Antonescu, Cătălin Stratulat, Mihai Daniel Oprea, Cristian Popescu, Mădălina Racovițan, Kannan Venugopal, Vikram Dixit, Victor Geus, Mihai Tudor, Ileana Farmache, Bogdan Bibicu, Bob de Man, Vladimir Kalinov, Irina Kubinschi, Florin Lincaru, Monica Udrescu, Cristina Grigorescu, Felix Daniliuc, Radu Florescu, Ovidiu Șandor, Mari Kano Klemm, Ciprian Lăduncă, Ramona Jurubiță, Raluca Soare, Aura Giurcăneanu, Ștefania Popp.

Hilton, Hațegan Attorneys, HP, IBM, JW Marriott, Kinstellar, KPMG, Lenovo, Microchip, Microsoft, NHR Agropartners, NXP, Papillon Laboratoires Cosmetiques, Radisson Blu, Sephora, Telekom, TMF Group, TNT, Ursus Breweries, Wave, Xerox.

EDUCATION

BUCHAREST

Asociația SOS Satele Copiilor România, Fundația Joyo, Asociația Valentina România, Asociația Sfântul Arhidiacon Ștefan, Fundația Inocenți – Filiala București, Asociația pentru o Comunitate Solidară și Intervenție Socială – ACSIS, Asociația “Ana și Copiii”, Fundația Providența, Fundația Viitor Pentru Copiii României, Asociația “Sprijinirea Integrării Sociale” – ASIS, Asociația Mia’s Children, Asociația Sfântul Stelian, Asociația Lindenfeld – Ajungem Mari, Asociația Teach for Romania, Asociația Culturală pentru Teatru și Origami din România – A.C.T.O.R., Fundația Light Into Europe, Asociația Help Autism, Fundația Copii în Dificultate, ASCHF–R Filiala București – Centrul de Zi Aurora Asociația Hercules.

CLUJ–NAPOCA

Fundația Dezvoltarea Popoarelor – Filiala Cluj, Serviciul de Ajutor Maltez în România, Asociația Autism Transilvania.

TIMIȘOARA

Școala Gimnazială 15, Societatea pentru Copii și Părinți, Asociația Creștină For Help, Missio Link International.

OTHER COUNTRY AREAS

CS Aurora Băicoi (Băicoi), Asociația pentru Pitici (Brașov), Filiala Prahova a Crucii Roșii (Bucov), Centrul de zi pentru copii Sfânta Marina (Iași), Fundația Comunitară Sibiu (Sibiu), Asociația DE–A ARHITECTURA (Brașov), Asociația Sprijin Pentru Autism (Jilava), Asociația AutHelp (Miercurea Ciuc), Asociația VivArt (Timișoara), Fundația Bucuria Ajutorului (Urлаți).

INTEGRATION

BUCHAREST

Fundația Chance for Life, Asociația Alternativa 2003, Asociația Sfânta Ana, Fundația Parada, Asociația Samusocial din România, Organizația Umanitară Concordia, Asociația Semn de Viață, Asociația Touched România, Agenția Adventistă pentru Dezvoltare, Refacere și Ajutor – ADRA România, Asociația Casa de Ajutor Reciproc a Pensionarilor “Omenia” București.

CLUJ–NAPOCA

Uniunea Creștină din România.

TIMIȘOARA

Fundația Serviciilor Sociale Bethany, Missio Link International.





HEALTH

BUCHAREST

Fundația Crucea Alb-Galbenă, Asociația de Ajutor Mutual București, Asociația P.A.V.E.L. – Primind Ajutor, Viața este Luminoasă.

CLUJ-NAPOCA

Asociația Filantropică Medical Creștină Christiana – Filiala Cluj.

TIMIȘOARA

Asociația Little People.

OTHER COUNTRY AREAS

Fundația Baylor – Marea Neagră (Constanța).

INSTITUTIONS AND AUTHORITIES

Peste 60 de școli din București, Cluj și Timișoara, Direcția de Asistență Socială și Medicală – Cluj, Direcția de Asistență Socială Comunitară a Municipiului Timișoara, Serviciul pentru Protecția Copilului și Familiei Timișoara, Agenția Județeană pentru Ocuparea Forței de Muncă Timiș, Inspectoratul Școlar Județean Timiș

PRO-BONO PARTNERS

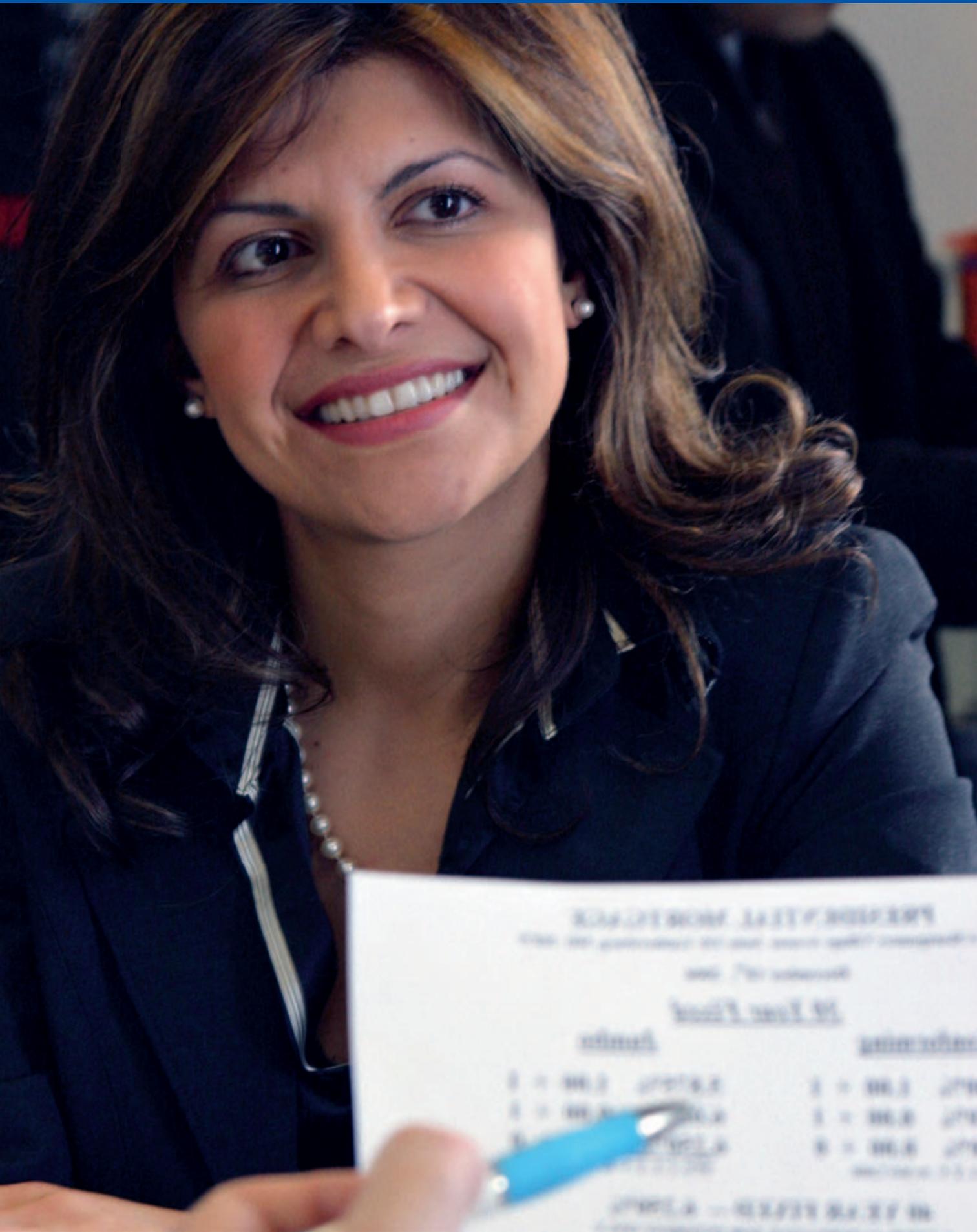
Over 60 schools in Bucharest, Cluj and Timișoara, Social and Medical Assistance Department – Cluj, Community Social Assistance Department of Timișoara, Child and Family Protection Service Timișoara, Timiș County Employment Agency, County School Inspectorate Timiș.

COMPANIES (pro-bono products and services)

3M (children products), Business Days, Centrade – Cheil (PR & Graphics), Class IT (IT assistance), Dacris (printing), Deloitte (mentorship), DLA Piper (juridical consultancy services), E-DEA Works (website), Editura Litera (children books), Genpact Cluj (office space and support for the Cluj office), GSK (hygiene and personal care products for beneficiaries), Hotel Central (event hosting), Junior Achievement (manuals, training), KPMG (contability and payroll services), PR&More (PR and communication in Cluj), Profil Media (PR and communication in Timișoara), PricewaterhouseCoopers (audit services), Prima TV (television post), Raiffeisen Bank (office space and complete logistic support and communication for the Bucharest office), Regina Maria (medical services), TNT (courier services), Wave Division (marathon stand), Webspire (digital services)

INDIVIDUALS

Sorina and Mikael Fredholm, Carmen Brumă, Irina Păcurariu, Dana Rogoz, Alexandru Constantin and Diana Bart (Prima TV), Andreea Raicu, Ada Condeescu, Livia Graur, Vlad Miriță, Nina Mihailă, Alexandru Pavel, Alexandru Damian, Dan Ivan.



MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

DATE	INITIALS	REMARKS
10/10/2023	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
10/11/2023	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
10/12/2023	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
10/13/2023	[Illegible]	[Illegible]
10/14/2023	[Illegible]	[Illegible]

APPROVED: [Illegible]



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF UNITED WAY ROMANIA**

Report on the special purpose financial information

1 We have audited the accompanying special purpose financial information of United Way Romania (the "Organisation"), which comprise the balance sheet as of 31 December 2016, the related statement of revenues and expenditures and the statement of assets and application of funds for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information. This special purpose financial information has been prepared by the management of United Way Romania in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to this special purpose financial information.

Management's responsibility for the special purpose financial information

2 Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this special purpose financial information in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to this special purpose financial information, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of special purpose financial information that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibility

3 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this special purpose financial information based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. These standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the special purpose financial information is free from material misstatement.

4 An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the special purpose financial information. The procedures selected depend on the

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JRU17222/11916, RO/02/2016



auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the special purpose financial information, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the special purpose financial information in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the special purpose financial information.

5 We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

6 In our opinion, the accompanying special purpose financial information of United Way Romania for the year ended 31 December 2016 are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to this special purpose financial information.

Basis of accounting and restriction on distribution and use

7 Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the special purpose financial information, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial information is prepared to assist the management of United Way Romania to report to the Organisation's Board of Directors. As a result, the special purpose financial information may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the use of the Organisation and the Organisation's Board of Directors and should not be distributed to or used by other parties.

Other matters

8 The Organisation has prepared a separate set of financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2016 in accordance with the Order of the Minister of Public Finance of Romania no 1969/2007 and subsequent amendments ("OMFP 1969"). Due to different accounting framework used, the financial statements prepared in accordance with OMFP 1969 might differ significantly from the accompanying special purpose financial information.

PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit SRL
PricewaterhouseCoopers Audit SRL

Bucharest, 2 October 2017

UNITED WAY ROMANIA

BALANCE SHEET

	31 December 2016 (RON)	31 December 2015 (RON)
Non-current assets		
Tangible fixed assets	2,600	4,059
Intangible fixed assets	453	793
Financial assets *	3,622,224	3,821,661
Total non-current assets	3,625,277	3,677,003
Current assets		
Prepaid expenses, receivables and other current assets	80,844	147,222
Cash and cash equivalents	3,355,197	4,255,228
Total current assets	3,445,041	4,712,890
Total assets	7,070,318	8,389,893
Accumulated funds **	7,063,001	8,420,173
Trade payables and other payables	8,327	(20,276)
Total funds and liabilities	7,070,318	8,389,893

* As at 31 December 2016 the Organisation holds within Raiffeisen Bank mutual funds in amount of RON 1,627,224 (31 December 2015: RON 1,575,594) and treasury bonds in amount of RON 1,995,000 (31 December 2015: RON 2,100,067). These funds are intended for extraordinary/ exceptional events which the Organisation can encounter.

This special purpose financial information was approved by the management of United Way Romania on 2 October 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Cristina Dumitru
Executive Director



UNITED WAY OF ROMANIA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

	Year ended 31 December 2016 (RON)	Year ended 31 December 2015 (RON)
Revenues		
Income from transfers, donations and sponsorships	3,256,019	4,255,170
Other revenue	60,276	54,480
Interest income	—	142,692
Total revenues	3,316,295	4,452,342
Expenditures		
Grants and direct support	3,746,077	3,872,892
Salaries	654,235	244,796
Social contributions	143,237	127,891
Travel, transport and accommodation	23,194	44,215
Educational and Social activities	14,235	38,893
Services	93,894	85,624
Stationery and office supplies	3,092	14,820
Membership for United Way Worldwide	78,643	71,273
Communication	11,129	8,923
Other tax expenses	2,124	1,500
Net foreign exchange loss/gain	(5,093)	(3,202)
Depreciation	6,208	1,827
Bank charges	427	229
Total expenditures	4,802,295	4,809,422
Deficit of revenues over expenditures	(1,485,999)	(357,080)

This special purpose financial information was approved by the management of United Way Romania on 2 October 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Cristina Dumitru
Executive Director





UNITED WAY ROMANIA

9 – 9A Dimitrie Pompeiu Blvd.,
Raiffeisen Learning Campus, Bucharest, District 2
www.unitedway.ro

BUCHAREST

Bank accounts:

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USD: RO97 RZBR 0000 0600 0520 4928
EURO: RO72 RZBR 0000 0600 0805 8342
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United Way România