

2024 Annual Report





VISION

Save the Children's vision is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation.

MISSION

Save the Children's mission is to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

VALUES

Accountability, ambition, collaboration, creativity, integrity.

Values we believe in

Accountability

We take personal responsibility for using our resources efficiently, achieving measurable results, and being accountable to supporters, partners and, most of all, children.

Ambition

We are demanding of ourselves and our colleagues, set high goals and are committed to improving the quality of everything we do for children.

Collaboration

We respect and value each other, thrive on our diversity and work with partners to leverage our global strength in making a difference for children.

Creativity

We are open to new ideas, embrace change and take disciplined risks to develop sustainable solutions for and with children.

Integrity

We aspire to live to the highest standards of personal honesty and behaviour; we never compromise our reputation and always act in the best interests of children.

Dear friends and supporters of the children's cause,

Please find below the 2024 Annual Report of our organization, Save the Children Romania, which is not only an enumeration of statistics and achievements, but also a testimony of our joint efforts, of the hopes we have embraced and of the lives we have changed together.

2024 was the year of fulfilled pledges. We upgraded and equipped healthcare facilities, we provided support to mothers and newborns from remote rural communities, we ensured access to quality education, we protected children whose parents were working abroad and made efforts to tackle bullying and violence in schools. We assisted refugee children from Ukraine, by providing not only material support, education and counselling, but also an emotional shelter against adversities.

We continued to advocate for children's rights to be prioritized on the public agenda.

All accomplishments described herein were only possible through your support - our donors, volunteers and partners, who believed in our mission. Together, we changed the lives of 359,000 children, and proved that when a community joins forces, the impossible becomes possible.

Looking ahead, we are at the threshold of a historic opportunity: 2025 will be the National Year of the Child in Romania. This initiative, which was adopted by the Romanian Government and Parliament as a result of our enthusiastic campaign, is more than a symbolic declaration – it is a firm commitment to put the rights and welfare of children at the top of the public agenda. We want to make this year a turning point, when education, healthcare and protection of children become real priorities, supported by actual investments and efficient policies. We aim at increasing the funding dedicated to educational infrastructure, expanding healthcare and welfare services, and strengthening the mechanisms through which children's voices are listened and valued when it comes to making decisions that concern them.

In this constantly evolving world, we must stay vigilant to protect democratic values – the only guarantee that children's rights are complied with and protected. Because democracy is not only a political system, but also a guarantee that each child deserves to grow up in a society that respects their dignity and protects their fundamental rights.

Dear friends, each of us has a role to play in this mission. Whether we get involved through our work, by choosing to donate or by voluntarily supporting activities for children, each action is a step towards a better future.

Thank you for choosing to be part of this noble mission! We urge you to continue to stand by our side on this journey where every child matters, and to further contribute to our future as a nation by making a positive change in the life of every child.

Thanks to the Board members: Liviu Sfrija, Camelia Şucu, Liviu Drăgan, Măriuța Simionescu, Daniel Badea, Ioana Atasiei and Iulian Trandafir.

Much consideration to the branch presidents: † Dumitra Sima, Măriuța Simionescu, Carmen Andrei, Cornelia Pasăre, Ivona Viviana Brădescu-Bădulescu, Ioana Atasiei, Meda Neagoe, Eugen Simion and Vasile Mariciuc, and to the coordinators of local offices: Daniela Zoe, Loredana Turiceanu, Carmen Clinci, Daniela Cazan.



Mihai Gafencu President



Gabriela Alexandrescu Executive President

Children supported:

359,000

Lives saved - 71,000

by equipping hospitals with state-of-the-art medical devices and equipment, as well as by providing information and support to mothers and pregnant women.

Education - 46,000

children and schools from disadvantaged areas benefitting from our support, by ensuring better conditions at the start of the 2023-2024 school year and providing information on the right to education.

Protection - 103,500

measures of protection against violence, supporting children with parents working abroad and refugee children, online safety, healthcare and information campaigns for risk prevention.

Information and participation - 138,500

promoting the rights of children both off and online, through initiatives that foster active participation of children.

Experts involved - 23,650

Parents - 86,610

of whom: 22,085 parents who were refugees from Ukraine

Volunteers - 3,000

Total revenue (EUR): **24,593,000**





Key results in 2024

1. Equipping 38 hospitals and starting the modernization project of Polizu Maternity

In 2024, Save the Children equipped 38 hospitals in 18 counties and Bucharest with 296 high-performance medical devices and furniture, improving care for over 60.000 children.

The organization started the renovation and modernization project for the Intensive Care Unit, the Operating Block, and the Obstetrics-Gynecology Ward IV, as well as the equipping of the Neonatology Department within Polizu Maternity. At the same time, it supported the ongoing professional training of 51 doctors.

2. Support for pregnant women and mothers in rural areas

Socio-medical programs in 16 counties supported 4,500 pregnant women, 6,000 children, and 2,000 mothers, complemented by equipment provided to 60 rural medical offices.

The campaign #WeWantHealthEducationInSchools and the partnership with the Romanian Senate in launching the national research on the situation of underage mothers and pregnant girls brought back into public debate the importance of health education, which is essential for prenatal and postnatal care.

3. Education for the prevention of unwanted pregnancies – "Children having children"

Over 1,000 teenage girls participated in sexual education sessions and psychological counseling, supported by ambassadors and specialists. The initiative helped increase concrete awareness about reproductive health, providing a safe space for questions and access to essential medical resources.

4. Children Home Alone

5,310 children and adults (either the caregivers the children were left with or the parents themselves) benefited from counseling and psycho-social and educational support. The three regional debates organized in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Iaşi, Craiova, and Constanța attracted significant interest from local authorities, bringing together over 200 participants. The campaign "Stay Close to Your Child!", carried out alongside the Border Police and several airports (Craiova, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, Suceava), provided parents with informational materials and counseling upon departure from or arrival in Romania. Recommendations for Romanian parents living abroad were also shared through Insight magazine (Tarom).

5. Access to Education for Children from Poverty-Affected Areas

46,000 children and their families were supported through socio-educational programs in Bucharest and 12 counties. Of these, 16,163 children directly benefited from Summer Kindergartens, After-School programs, Second Chance education, and online platforms.

The renovation and equipping of 40 schools improved educational conditions for children, helping reduce the risk of school dropout.

6. Preventing Violence and Bullying

The Barnahus Center provides multidisciplinary intervention for 54 children who are victims of abuse, supporting their emotional recovery. Through the implementation of anti-bullying programs in 502 kindergartens and schools, 36,000 (pre)schoolers were involved in prevention activities, and 4,200 teachers and specialists were trained in using tools for the early identification of violent situations.

7. Internet Safety - Save the Children as a Trusted Flagger

The "Ora de Net" program involved 37,500 children and 14,000 adults in interactive sessions on online safety. The civil reporting point esc_ABUZ handled over 19,000 reports concerning harmful content, and recognition as a trusted flagger by ANCOM strengthens our efforts to protect children online, offering a safer virtual space and personalized counseling for both children and parents.



PROVIDING EQUIPMENT AND REVAMPING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES - MATERNITY CLINICS AND PAEDIATRIC WARDS

Support for Children's Health.

In 2024, Save the Children supported 38 medical units in 18 counties and Bucharest by providing 296 high-performance medical devices and specialized furniture, as well as by supporting the continuous training of medical staff. Key interventions included: the renovation of sanitary facilities in the pediatric ward of Oltenița Municipal Hospital, the establishment of a Human Milk Bank at Filantropia Maternity Hospital, equipping the neonatology department of Slobozia County Hospital, and starting the renovation and modernization works at Polizu Maternity in Bucharest (renovation of the Operating Block, the Intensive Care and Obstetrics-Gynecology IV wards, equipping the Neonatology department, reconditioning of the Operating Room within the Center of Excellence, and relocation of the Blood Transfusion Unit).

The investments made have improved treatment conditions for over 60,000 children and supported the work of medical professionals.

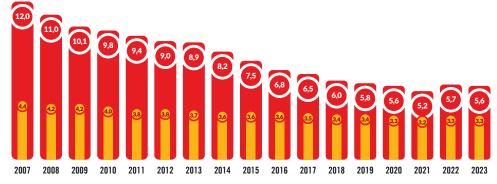
Continuous medical training. 51 neonatologists participated in an intensive 2-day training course about ventilating newborns, organized with Sibiu Emergency Clinical County Hospital, the Neonatology Association of Romania and Sibiu "Lucian Blaga" University.

Campaigns to Support the Equipping of Medical Units for Children

Fundraising campaigns were carried out to raise public and corporate awareness about the needs of mothers and newborns: "The Smallest Room", created with **Golin Romania**, "Be a Hero! Save Children's Lives!", "Every Breath Counts!", and "Lullaby for Polizu".

The latter was developed with **Global Records**, supported by **The Drop**, and included the creation of the song "Let's Be Superheroes", which brought together 18 artists from Global Records: Adi Istrate, Alessandra, Alina Eremia, AMI, Andrei Bănuță, Bianca Dragomir, Dayana, Florian Rus, Holy Molly, IRAIDA, Liviu Teodorescu, Mira, Nicole Cherry, Olivia Addams, Randi, Roxen, Theo Rose, and Yuka, with Alex Cotoi as the producer.

The program for equipping and modernizing medical units was supported by **Amalia Năstase** as Ambassador.



Save the Children's intervention in supporting medical units had a significant impact and contributed, alongside other factors, to the reduction of infant mortality in Romania. The infant mortality rate decreased from 10 per 1,000 live births at the start of the program to 5.6 per 1,000 live births in 2023 (final data for 2023, National Institute of Statistics).



Healthcare facilities supported: In the country: Arad Emergency County Hospital • Bacău Emergency County Hospital • "Dr. Constantin Opriș" Emergency County Hospital in Baia Mare • "Mavromati" Emergency County Hospital in Botoșani • Brăila Emergency County Hospital • Oltenița Municipal Hospital • Bolintin Vale Town Hospital • Giurgiu Emergency County Hospital • Târgu-Jiu Emergency County Hospital • Cărbunești Town Hospital • Toplița Municipal Hospital • "Al. Simionescu" Municipal Hospital in Hunedoara • Slobozia Emergency County Hospital • "Cuza Vodă" Obstetrics-Gynaecology Clinical Hospital in Iași • "Elena Doamna" Obstetrics-Gynecology Clinical Hospital in Iași • Târgu Mureș Emergency Cardiovascular Disease and Transplant Institute • "Sf. Dimitrie" Town Hospital in Târgu Neamț • Roman Municipal Hospital • Ploiești Paediatric Hospital • "Dr. Constantin Andreoiu" Ploiești Emergency County Hospital • Câmpulung Moldovenesc Municipal Hospital • Alexandria Emergency County Hospital • Caritas Municipal Hospital - Roșiori de Vede • "Louis Țurcanu" Emergency Hospital for Children in Timișoara • Timișoara Municipal Clinical Emergency Hospital.

Healthcare units in Bucharest: "Filantropia" Clinical Hospital • CF 2 Clinical Hospital • Bucur Maternity Clinic – "Sf. Ioan" Clinical Emergency Hospital • "Grigore Alexandrescu" Emergency Hospital for Children • "Marie Sklodowska Curie" Emergency Hospital for Children • Bucharest University Emergency Hospital • "Dr. Victor Gomoiu" Clinical Hospital for Children • "Dr. Ion Cantacuzino" Clinical Hospital • "Marius Nasta" Institute of Pneumology and Phthisiology • INSMC "Alessandrescu-Rusescu" National Institute for Mother and Child Health.



Partners/Sponsors:

Lidl România, OMV
Petrom, CEC Bank, Chiesi,
Transelectrica, Romgaz,
Philips, Alpha Bank Romania,
Oriflame, Hidroelectrica,
Libris, DB Schenker, Lactalis
Romania, Zewa Romania,
Conectys, Premium Sell.

OMV Petrom Foundation.

Institutional supporters and partners:

Ministry of Health, the Bucharest Hospitals and Medical Services Administration (ASSMB).



INTEGRATED COMMUNITY SERVICES

Community services. In 2024, Save the Children Romania has developed integrated social-medical services in the rural area across 16 counties (Argeş, Braşov, Botoşani, Caraş-Severin, Constanța, Dolj, Dâmbovița, Iași, Hunedoara, Mureş, Neamţ, Prahova, Suceava, Vaslui, Timiş, Tulcea), reaching **12,500 beneficiaries**, including 4,500 pregnant women, 6,000 children and 2,000 mothers. The programme brought together 100 healthcare professionals who made a contribution through information sessions and education on healthcare in rural communities.

Equipment provided. Our programme through which we provide family doctors' surgeries in the rural areas with the necessary equipment has expanded. After assessing the impact on the first 40 surgeries from 18 counties to which we provided 625 pieces of equipment, the initiative extended to include 60 more surgeries. At the same time, the **Baby Box** project continues to support 6,000 pregnant women living in rural areas. Together with the Romanian Government and Caravana cu Medici Association, we launched the mobile healthcare services, with an estimated number of 10,000 beneficiaries reached per year. In the **Republic of Moldova**, our support materialized into 170 pieces of furniture provided to the Institute of Mother and Child in Chisinău, 2,800 mothers and children, including Ukrainian refugees, benefitting from treatment in modern conditions. Education and advocacy. The #VremEducatiePentruSănătateÎnŞcoli (We want healthcare education in schools) campaign ensured support to 1,000 teenagers aged 11 to 17 from rural areas. The campaign ambassador was **Andreea Raicu**, and the sessions were facilitated by Adina Păun, midwife, internationally certified IBCLC lactation consultant and prenatal and postnatal educator and Cornelia Paraipan, paediatric psychiatrist and psychotherapist. Furthermore, through a partnership concluded with the Health Committee within the Romanian Senate, we launched a nation-wide research on the situation of underaged mothers/pregnant girls, which was followed by a series of actual recommendations to improve the protection system.

Impact: Health markers have significantly improved in the target communities: the rate of enrolment to a family doctor increased from 50% to 95%, vaccine coverage reached 99% and the level of information on contraception and childcare tripled to 95%. By providing the necessary equipment to family doctors' surgeries, we expanded access to basic healthcare to 25,000 beneficiaries (15,000 children and 10,000 mothers), thus improving medical protection from 30% to 95% for pregnant women and children part of the programme.

Partners/Sponsors: OMV Petrom Foundation, Alliance Healthcare Romania.

Institutional partners: Ministry of Health, mayoralties, Caravana cu Medici Association, National House of Health Insurance.

ORAL HEALTH

As part of the partnership with DENT ESTET, children in the Save the Children educational programs benefited from dental prophylaxis services and free consultations. Following their visits to the dentist, the children improved their dental hygiene habits.

LOOKING AHEAD

The national eye examination programme, resumed by Save the Children Romania with the support of **Essilor**, reached **4,000 children** from 17 schools in Bucharest, Târgoviște, Iași, Bacău, Suceava and Petrila. 1,314 children with eyesight issues were identified through this screening and sent to partner clinics in order to perform a thorough medical examination and correct any eyesight deficiencies. Where needed, children received the necessary eyeglasses.



Romania continues to face major challenges when it comes to education, amplified by an alarming rate of educational poverty. In 2023, 39% of children were at risk of poverty or social exclusion, and 41.7% struggled with functional illiteracy. The cost-of-living crisis had a deep impact on vulnerable families, 95%

of whom stated that they were unable to cover the basic needs of the children, such as food, clothing or medical care. Research conducted by Save the Children Romania revealed that 51.58% of these families had an income below 400 Ron/family member, while 32.48% had an income of 600 Ron/family member.

In 2024, Save the Children Romania continued to implement programmes aimed at reducing school dropout and supporting access of children to quality education. Throughout the year, **46,000 children**, their families and experts in education and welfare benefited from the activities carried out in Bucharest and 12 counties.

Direct services. The social-education programme included **16,163 children** in 2024, of whom 363 participated in Summer Kindergartens, 4,500 benefited from School after School programmes and Remedial Education, 300 were integrated in the "Second Chance" programme, and 2,000 took online courses using the EduKiwi School platform. Other 9,000 children benefited from improved education after 300 members of the teaching staff were trained (as per the SNAP methodology, pending certification from the Ministry of Education). Furthermore, **29,837 children** benefited from support to have access to education by providing them with information and counselling and by improving their learning conditions, while **11,000 parents** received material support through social vouchers, food, hygiene products, as well as social counselling.

Extracurricular activities. 850 children explored the art and history of Romania through workshops organized at **the National Museum of Art of Romania.** Furthermore, the nine workshops of painting, drawing and modelling facilitated by **the Romanian Cultural Institute** made the participating children really happy. Our latest programme, *What's Next?*, funded by Banca Transilvania, ensured access for 900 students from 18 schools in Bucharest to counselling and career guidance sessions.

Provision of equipment and rehabilitation of school infrastructure. Of the 40 schools which benefitted from support, 18 were renovated, including new paint, air conditioning, books and teaching materials, while 22 received school supplies and hygiene products.

Impact: 77% of the students had good and very good results. As to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) the percentage of children with a good and very good performance increased from 35% to 68%. For the Romanian language subject, the percentage of students with good and very good level of knowledge went up from 32% to 75%.

Schools provided with equipment: Bucharest – secondary schools 145, 62 (district 2), 127 (district 5), 181 and "Uruguay" (district 1); Târgoviște – schools "Matei Basarab", "Radu cel Mare", "Bălașa Doamna"; Tecuci - "Ion Petrovici" Secondary School; Olt – "Ada Umbra Ianca" School, "Celeiu" Corabia, "Gârcov" School, "Gârcov" Kindergarten; Tulcea – Secondary School 12; Dolj – "Înv. M. Georgescu" School in Celaru; Vâlcea – Prundeni School; Brașov - Secondary School 9 "Nicolae Orghidan" Brașov, Mândra Secondary School.

Partners/Sponsors: Kaufland Romania, PEPCO Romania, Banca Transilvania, Catena Pharmacies, BCR, Star Assembly, Romanian Business Consult, Libris.

Institutional partners: The Ministry of Education, school inspectorates, general welfare and child protection directorates, public welfare services, Centre for Educational Resources and Assistance in Bucharest, the National Museum of Art of Romania, the Romanian Cultural Institute, secondary schools.



CHILDREN HOME ALONE

The protection and education programme dedicated to children with parents working abroad is focused on reducing the negative effects of separation of families, both through psychological-social and educational support, as well as by strengthening the welfare, educational and justice institutions.

Direct results. In 2024, 2,950 children and 2,360 parents/caregivers benefited from activities organized in partnership with schools and educational centres from 15 counties and Bucharest, as well as through roadshows. The services provided included psychological and legal counselling, educational support, activities for leisure and parental education programmes.

In 2024, the results of the *regional studies on the situation of children whose parents are gone to work abroad* were shared during regional debates organized in Iași (7 March, North-East region), Craiova (4 April, West region) and Constanța (23 April, South-East region). More than 200 persons participated in this activity, mainly representatives of local authorities, but also representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Presidential Administration and the National Authority for Child Rights Protection, who debated on the recommendations to be submitted to the central authorities. At the same time, 2,300 children, 1,800 parents and 500 experts from 47 rural localities were



informed through roadshows, including during the "Month of Diaspora" in Suceava, which was also attended by a Senator from diaspora.

Advocacy. The "Stay close to your child!" campaign, conducted with the support of Border Police and several airports (Craiova, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, Suceava), provided parents with informative materials and face-to-face counselling upon departure or arrival in the country. All recommendations meant for Romanians from Diaspora were also published in the Insight publication (Tarom) and 1,500,000 Romanians living abroad received relevant information with the support of the Department for Romanians Everywhere. A different initiative "Heartfelt discussions" (PEPCO Romania, "Noi Orizonturi Lupeni" Foundation and Happy Minds Association) encouraged sharing emotions through the www.discutiidininima.ro platform, an ad displayed in the Cinema City network, and a podcast moderated by Ela Crăciun with experts from our organization.

By the end of the year, Save the Children Romania launched the movie entitled "Clara" (directed by Sabin Dorohoi), the first Romanian-German coproduction about the trauma experienced by children left alone. The premiere was attended by officials of the Presidential Administration, the Embassies of Italy and Germany, as well as of **the Department for Romanians Everywhere**, and welfare specialists and teachers. Our organization's good practices were presented during the European Social Work Conference (Bruges, 26 April), the Roundtable organized under the coordination of Odisee University (Brussels, 18 June), during the AmbasaDOR de Bucovina conference (1 August) and during the event entitled "Child protection – partnerships in the field of services for children" (30 September - 1 October), co-organized with European Social Network and other institutional partners.

Impact. All these efforts are reflected by the 76% of children enrolled who successfully strengthened their emotional and social skills, while the platform www.copiisinguriacasa.ro attracted over 14,500 unique visitors. The 350 media appearances, with a reach of 6,400,000 persons, confirm the public interest and the interest of authorities concerning the situation of children affected by migration.

Partners/Sponsors/Financers: PEPCO Romania, Kaufland Romania, Alpha Bank Romania, the Department for Romanians Everywhere.

Institutional partners: Presidential Administration, the Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports, ANPDCA (National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption), Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romanian Border Police, Bucharest National Airport Company, international airports in Craiova, "Avram lancu" in Cluj-Napoca, "Traian Vuia" in Timișoara, "Ștefan cel Mare" in Suceava, county school inspectorates, county educational resource and assistance centres, general child welfare and protection directorates, public welfare services, secondary schools.



PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AGAINST VIOLENCE

SERVICES AIMED TO SUPPORT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (ASSESSMENT, COUNSELLING, THERAPY)

Mental health is key to ensure the optimal development of children and adults, with an impact on their learning process, their adaptability and their wellbeing. In an increasingly complex world, we must make sure children are able to manage their emotions in order to achieve emotional balance. The relationship between parenting and a child's ability to adapt is fundamental, and parenting based on positive discipline and adequate communication is key to children's harmonious development. Family remains the main role model when it comes to education and handling emotions, playing a decisive role in the development of a child's values and personality.

54,646 children and parents have benefited from therapeutic counselling and parenting education since the opening of the Save the Children counselling centres.

Intervention and protection. Save the Children Romania continued to provide psychological support through its four counselling centres in Bucharest, Timişoara, Târgu Mureș and Iași. The organization assessed and provided therapy to 445 children, through 3,311 counselling sessions, while 403 parents benefited from 2,306 sessions aimed at developing positive parental skills. Our programmes sharing information on the importance of creating a safe and violence-free environment where children can grow up reached 3,279 children and 1,107 parents. 593 members of the teaching staff participated in training sessions aimed at improving their skills to manage diversity in the classroom, communicate with pupils and parents and identify mental health issues. Other 700 students attended workshops on child rights, abuse prevention, and the risks associated with running away from home.

Partners:

The Ministry of Education, National Agency against Trafficking in Persons, "Al. Obregia" Psychiatric Hospital – Psychiatric Clinic for children and teenagers, Centre for Educational Resources and Assistance in Bucharest, National Anti-Drug Agency.

PROTECTION OF SEXUALLY ABUSED CHILDREN

One of our major achievements consisted in the activities conducted in the **Barnahus Centre** in Bucharest where, based on the Icelandic cross-disciplinary response model, we provided specialized services to 54 children and teenagers victims of abuse and violence, and assisted their parents with emotional support during the 276 sessions carried out. 156 police officers in Bucharest were trained in special hearing methods when interviewing minors who were victims of or witnessed violence (NICHD Protocol).

5,200 persons accessed the **www.stopabuz.ro** platform where they could find 62 materials containing bilingual information.

Impact:

The level of satisfaction is of 95%, both among adults and children, beneficiaries of counselling centres, as well as among experts who benefitted from training.

Partners:

General Directorate of Social Assistance and Child Protection of District 6, the Prosecutor's Office of the Bucharest Court, General Directorate of Bucharest Police, Directorate for the Investigation of Organized Crime and Terrorism.





IMPROVING SCHOOL CLIMATE AND PREVENTING BULLYING

In 2024, Save the Children Romania has reinforced efforts to improve the relations between children, between children and adults both in school and preschool environment as well as at home. There have been developed distinct and complementary methodologies aimed at carrying out interventions at all educational stages. These methodologies have been implemented in 502 educational units in Bucharest and 23 counties.

Results:

32,000 PRESCHOOLERS

involved in activities aimed at preventing bullying in 2024

3,835 SCHOOL STUDENTS

involved in activities aimed at preventing bullying

916 SPECIALISTS

(social workers, police officers, psychologists) trained based on specific methodologies

3,293 MEMBERS OF THE TEACHING STAFF

(teachers) took part in various trainings and workshops

27,600 PARENTS

informed on positive discipline methods

The "Let's be friends – no bullying" preschool programme has seen a major expansion, reaching 201 new kindergartens, adapting the values-based working methodology with the help of the 1,684 members of the teaching staff trained. In 2024, approximately 32,000 preschoolers benefited from the program, with 39,1000 children from 330 kindergartens being involved since 2019 to date in activities aimed at developing their social-emotional skills. The impact analysis showed promising results: 70% of the children learned how to better express and manage their emotions, and 88% showed a positive attitude towards diversity.

The **"Bullying-free schools" programme** engaged 172 schools where it provided training to 514 teachers and 366 parents. 3,449 children participated in activities focused on increasing group cohesion and preventing social exclusion and bullying, and 386 school students became antibullying ambassadors. Furthermore, 200 experts from School Safety Police Offices benefitted from training for them to engage in bullying prevention activities with children. The programme engagement was enhanced with the contribution of 71 volunteers and 46 students of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Science. The second edition of the "Bullying-free schools" National Competition engaged 78 teams, 6 of whom received awards for creating projects of significant impact.

The **"Safe Families" programme**, launched in 2024, accounts for an innovative approach in preventing violence, focusing on developing parents' skills to communicate with their children in a positive way, acknowledging the human growth phases and the child's rights.

The programme trained 48 members of the teaching staff from 9 schools and other 18 experts as facilitators. 260 parents and 292 children benefitted from the programme which was structured into in a series of 10 sessions of psychoeducation.

Advocacy and information campaigns. Save the Children Romania organized the Regional Conference "The right to a break with no bullying" in Târgu Mureş, joining over 100 participants, including governmental officials. During the Tolerance Week (11 - 17 November 2024), teachers carried out activities to foster tolerance in schools. Save the Children Romania team participated in events such as TEDx Cluj and the "Cure for bullying" symposium in Timişoara, contributing to debates on how to tackle school violence. Save the Children Romania was also involved in the national consultation for the modernization of the 119 platform to report cases of child abuse, as well as in the drafting of the National Plan to Stop Violence, launched by ANPDCA (National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption).

Materials and resources. Educational materials were created for the "Tolerance Week", including a leaflet and the web page https://saptamanatolerantei.farabullying.ro. In addition to the materials above, we also developed videos, impact assessments and newsletters for teachers, thus contributing to the strengthening of an active community of experts focused on the prevention of bullying.

Supporters and partners:

Ministry of Education, Save the Children Denmark, Save the Children Netherlands, The Mary Foundation, OMV Petrom Foundation, county educational resource and assistance centres, students' councils, school inspectorates, school safety directorates through School Safety Office, DGASPC Buzău, Mureş, Braşov, Harghita, Sibiu, Alba, CMBRAE (Centre for Educational Resources and Assistance in Bucharest), Egger Romania, NHOOD.





CHILDREN'S ONLINE SAFETY

The Ora de Net programme, co-funded with the European Commission is a unique milestone in Romania when it comes to promoting online safety for children and teenagers. Considering the complexity of the challenges specific to the digital world, we applied a multidimensional strategy, which combined research, education and direct intervention.

In 2024, 37,540 children, 13,757 adults (teachers, education specialists and parents) were involved in educational activities focusing on the safe use of the Internet.

During the event organized on the occasion of **Safer Internet Day** Save the Children Romania launched the study called "The Internet in the Family", which revealed parents' concerns about their children' safety online: 75% fear that their children may be exposed to inadequate content, 70% are worried about a potential contact with strangers while 59% are afraid their children might become victims of potential online crimes. The event brought together key representatives from the authorities responsible for child protection



and specialists in information and communication technology, in order to bring to public attention the importance of informing, educating and intervention to ensure a positive and safe online environment for children. In response to parents' fears, Save the Children has developed the practical guide " Is your child safe on the Internet?".

The educational component of the program targeted 37,540 children and 13,757 adults who engaged in activities about online safety. The novelty of the program was the creation of a network of 340 young volunteers to promote peer-to-peer education in 19 counties. With the support of the Ministry of Education, we implemented three major initiatives nationwide, focusing on topics such as "How to create and protect our identity online", "Educating children and teenagers on the risk of online misinformation" and "How to find a balance between the time spent online and screen time".

The civic hub for reporting harmful content for children on the Internet (both illegal and legal), esc_ABUZ (https://oradenet.ro/linia-de-raportare), processed 19,369 reports in 2024, of which 84% targeted materials generated by children themselves, most of them (99%) depicting female persons. At the same time, **the counselling centre** responded to 2,260 inquiries, most on media education, online identity and cyberbullying.

The "Perfect stories have no filters" campaign, focused around a video with a powerful message, reached more than 13 million persons through social media and TV. In addition, we organized 9 regional conferences about the digital identity of teenagers, which brought together influencers such as Dana Rogoz, Cristian China-Birta, Robert Diaconeasa, Iulia Ionescu, Lorena Vișan, Louis Zanfir, experts in cybersecurity (Dan Gavojdea, Butka Gergo, Mihai Peca, Cătălin Aramă) and psychologists, with over 2,000 participants.

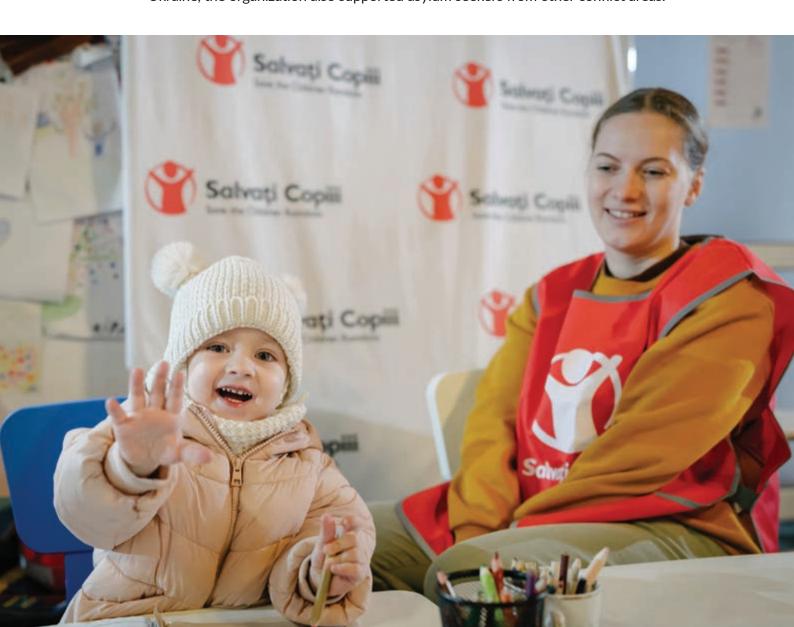


The year 2024 was also a milestone for significant institutional achievements: obtaining the first **Certificate of Trusted Flagger** from ANCOM, organizing the meeting of the Childs Rights Online group in Bucharest (13-15 May), which joined together internationally renowned experts with the sole purpose of drafting a plan of action to ensure the protection of children online. Our public awareness campaigns had a direct impact on 51,297 children and adults, thus strengthening our efforts to create a safer digital environment for young people.



PROTECTION OF REFUGEE, RESETTLED AND ASYLUM-SEEKING CHILDREN

The conflict in Ukraine started on 24 February 2022 created a humanitarian crisis of large proportions, with a particular impact on children. By 31 December 2024, 7,040,230 Ukrainian citizens crossed Romania (UNHCR data), 4,478 of whom sought asylum, and 188,350 received temporary residence permits. As of December 16, 2024, there were 175,425 Ukrainians registered by our authorities, of whom about 34% were children, who urgently needed protection, access to education, medical care, psycho-social support and opportunities to interact. On the background of a humanitarian crisis, Save the Children Romania continued to support refugee children and their families, quickly adapting our interventions to emerging needs. In addition to providing assistance to refugees in Ukraine, the organization also supported asylum seekers from other conflict areas.



Assistance to refugee children in asylum centres

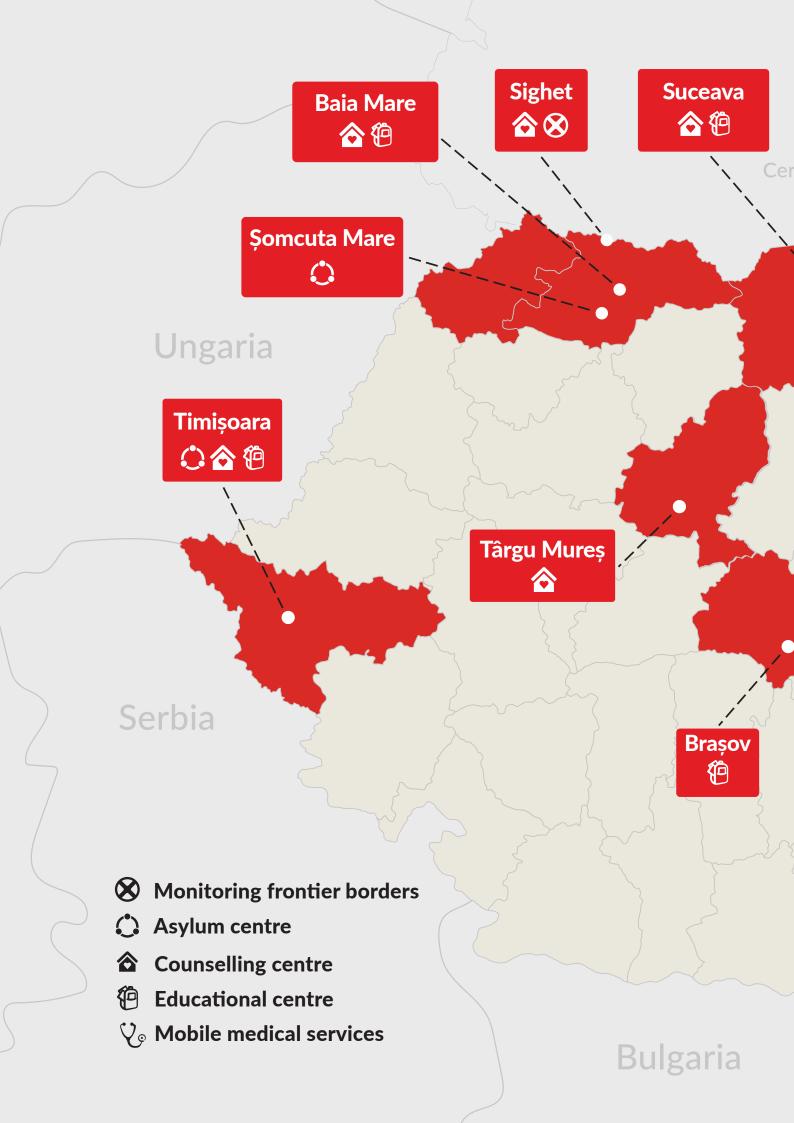
2,466 asylum applications were submitted in 2024, a three-fold decrease from the previous year. Most of the applications came from Syria, Iraq and Nepal, and 21% of them (514) came from minors. At the same time, the number of unaccompanied minors was 50, most of them coming from Syria, Somalia and Iraq. On 31 December, 4,833 beneficiaries of international protection were registered with valid papers in Romania, of whom 1,575 were children. Save the Children Romania thus provided direct support in the Regional Centres of Procedures and Accommodation for Asylum Seekers in Bucharest, Galaţi, Rădăuţi, Şomcuta Mare and Timişoara, through social assistance, distribution of packages with hygiene products, food and clothing, as well as educational and recreational activities. The children benefited from Romanian language courses, help on homework and cultural activities meant to facilitate integration. Consequently, Save the Children Romania provided educational and social services to 1,060 beneficiaries, of whom 599 were children, including 69 unaccompanied minors.

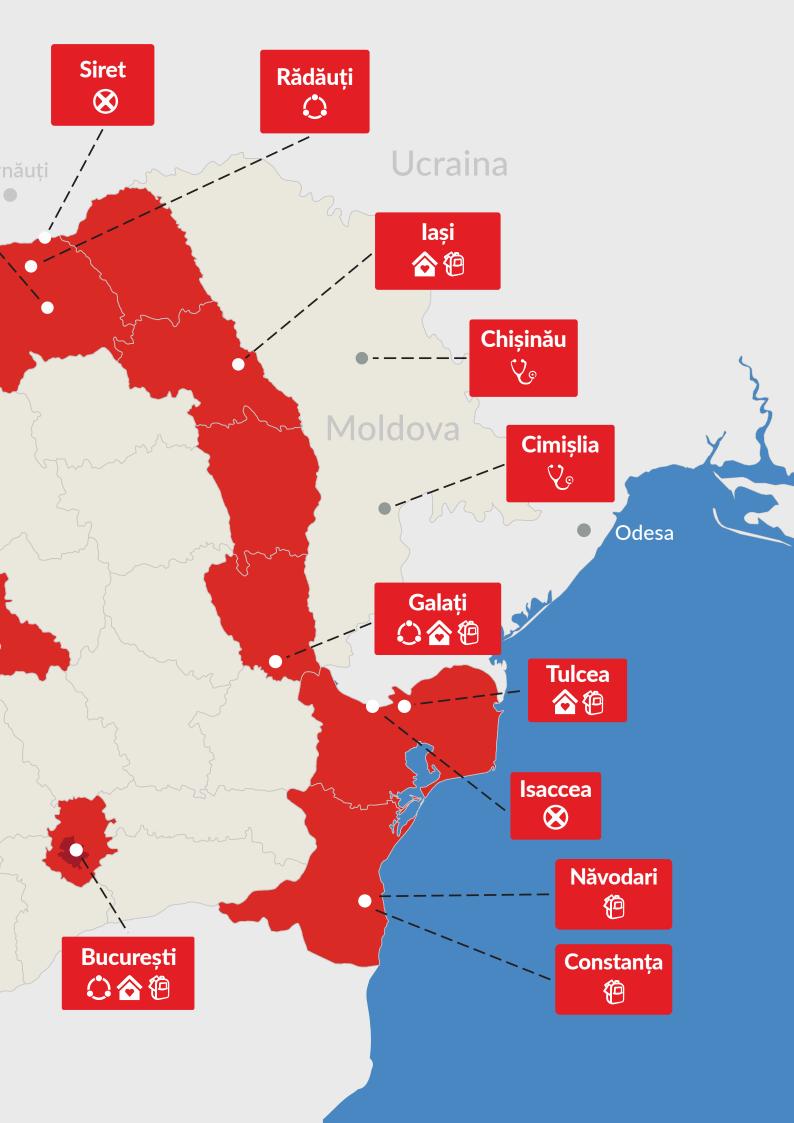
Response Programme for refugee children from Ukraine

Since the onset of the crisis (25 February 2022), Save the Children Romania helped 367,342 people (184,759 children and 182,583 adults). In 2024, our support reached 39,173 people, including 17,088 children and 22,085 adults, through material and financial support, translation and informational counselling, psycho-social assistance and guidance on how to access essential services (education, healthcare, employment). The activities were carried out at border points (Isaccea, Siret, Sighetu-Marmației), in the Centres for Procedures and Accommodation of the General Inspectorate for Immigration (Bucharest, Galați, Rădăuți, Şomcuta Mare, Timișoara), in the refugee camp in Rădăuți and in gathering spaces such as the North Railway Station and Romexpo, as well as in day centres (Iași, Timișoara), nine counselling centres (Bucharest, Galați, Tulcea, Iași, Suceava, Baia Mare, Timișoara, Târgu Mureș, Sighetu-Marmației) and three educational centres (Brașov, Constanța, Năvodari).

Upon arrival in Romania, 9,454 children and 15,556 adults received **immediate assistance**. Subsequently, their mid- and long-term integration needs were covered in the nine counselling centres, where 13,103 people (7,035 children and 6,068 adults), including 11,522 Ukrainians, 1,453 Romanians and 127 other nationalities received assistance. Ukrainian families benefited from financial assistance, social support, help to obtain a residence permit, enrollment with a family doctor and seeking a job. The social workers managed 1,193 cases, and 18 experts from nine locations (including Bucharest, Constanța, Galați, Iași, Timișoara) were trained in the Safe Families methodology, which promotes positive parenting. The Safe Families sessions engaged 142 children and 112 parents.

Through **the financial assistance program**, 5,892 people (3,148 children and 2,744 adults) received social vouchers, and 4,851 people (3,603 children and 1,248 adults) received mental health services and psychosocial support. Of them, 585 children participated in TeamUp activities, and 621 children, mostly Ukrainians, participated in the nine summer camps. At educational level, 2,439 children received support: 1,067 participated in the After School program in 14 schools/centres, 1,411 attended Romanian language courses, and 200 were integrated into the Mobile School activities. Furthermore, 2,000 equipped backpacks were distributed to both Ukrainian and Romanian children.







In order to ensure a strong voice for refugee children, Save the Children Romania organized, from 14 to 26 June 2024, the forum called "Young Voices of Ukraine – Children's Participation Forum". Local consultations took place in several cities, with over 270 children aged 9 to 17, who discussed educational integration and well-being. Subsequently, 39 representatives of children presented a set of recommendations in Bucharest, in front of officials such as the Minister of Education, the Ambassador of Ukraine and representatives of UNHCR, ANPDCA, DSU(Department for Emergency Situations), IOM and UNICEF.

In 2024, the organization inaugurated a **Day Centre for disadvantaged Ukrainian and Romanian children,** set up in partnership with the District 6 City Hall and DGASPC District 6, in the Golescu Grant Service Centre. The aim is to support the socio-economic



integration of families through an integrated package of services, including Romanian language courses, after-school programmes, recreational activities, parental counselling and access to lunch.

In total, 312 children and 240 adults received assistance, of whom 38 children (33 Ukrainians, 5 Romanians) benefited directly from the services of the centre. Other 74 children received financial support necessary to go to kindergarten, nursery or extracurricular activities. Also, 31 children (24 Ukrainians and 7 Romanians) participated in the summer camp, and 15 adults attended Romanian language courses.

To improve child protection skills, 389 specialists were trained, reaching a total of **1,542 people trained since the beginning of the war.** At the same time, as part of the bilateral

initiative Save the Children Romania – Save the Children Norway, 40 Romanian specialists (from the Ministry of Education, ANPDCA, DGASPC and School Inspectorates) took part in study visits to Oslo, in order to learn good practices regarding the integration and inclusive education of migrant children.

Between 20-21 March 2024, Bucharest was the host of the international conference "Better prepared for the integration of migrant children - good practices and challenges", attended by over 170 participants – officials, diplomats, NGO representatives and journalists from Romania, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, Poland, Lithuania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Norway, Iceland, Italy and Sweden – who shared solutions and good practices. The event helped improve the efforts to integrate migrant children by facilitating direct dialog between specialists and authorities in charge of child protection.

Intervention in the Republic of Moldova.

Save the Children Romania supported the Institute of Mother and Child in Chisinau with medical equipment for intensive care and neonatology departments, as well as care products for 1,000 newborns and mothers. In May 2024, the Operating Block of the institute was equipped with medical furniture, facilitating the performance of more than 2,800 surgical interventions per year, of which 70% emergency interventions.

Other key actions:

- Support to integrate 1,600
 Ukrainian children in schools.
- Medical, social and psychological services for 2,500 pregnant women and children, through 2 mobile medical units.
- 1,318 cases treated at the Institute of Mother and Child, including 190 safe childbirths for women fleeing from Ukraine.



The interventions aimed at supporting refugee children and adults from Ukraine were carried out using 7 grants (DEC – Save the Children UK, Dutch Campaign - Save the Children Netherlands, Humanitarian Fund – Save the Children International, Realdania and Hempel Foundation – Save the Children Denmark, Save the Children Italy, Save the Children Japan, Mastercard – Center of Inclusive Growth and EBRD).

Institututional partners:

The General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGI), the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU), UNHCR, ANPDCA, County Directorates for Child Welfare and Protection, DGASMB, DGASPC District 6, Project Voiajor Association - Jobs4Ukraine.





PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AFFECTED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

28 localities from Galați County were heavily impacted by the heavy rains on September 14, 2024, affecting over 7,000 households and about 20,000 people. The government provided 400 tons of food from national reserves, as well as sleeping bags, blankets and other emergency supplies. DSU placed two camps with 200 beds in Pechea and Slobozia Conachi, and temporary accommodation was also set up in schools, which was used only briefly. 25 schools suspended classes initially but resumed their activity later as the situation allowed. Many families lost their entire property, including ID cards, and some public institutions – schools, city halls, health centres – were affected. In Vaslui county, the worst situation was recorded in Zorleni (230 flooded households), and localities Murgeni, Trestiana and Grivița reported 15-20 affected households each.

Save the Children Romania intervention. Since September 16, Save the Children Romania mobile teams intervened in 20 localities in Galați county (such as Slobozia Conachi, Izvoarele, Pechea, Costache Negri, Cudalbi, Corod) and in Comana (Constanța), by providing basic supplies: hygiene products, care products for newborns, clothing, blankets, duvets and backpacks with school supplies, through 10 distribution points. **A humanitarian shipment worth of 357,011 Ron was sent to help at least 1,000 families.**

More than 5,000 people received assistance:

- 5,035 people, including 2,182 children, benefited from hygiene products;
- 2,000 children received social vouchers covering their basic needs (including winter clothing);
- 506 children were supported with school-equipped backpacks;
- 308 children received a warm meal daily for three weeks.

Seven local institutions (four schools, two medical units and one social assistance department) were also supported. The *Cudalbi 24/7 Centre* was equipped with a monitor for vital signs, washing machine, wrapping table, cleaning products and medical supplies; the dental office in Costache Negri received cleaning products and consumables. Schools such as Slobozia Conachi School no. 1 and Costache Conachi Technological High School also received hygiene products and educational materials.

Partners/Supporters/Financers:

Humanitarian Fund – Save the Children International, Kaufland Romania, Pfizer Romania.





CHILD PARTICIPATION

PROMOTING, ENFORCING AND OBSERVING CHILD'S RIGHTS

Children have the power to change the future. Here, at Save the Children Romania, we rely on their desire to know their rights and be involved in the decisions that concern them. Beyond the legal framework – from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to the new provisions in the national law that make it mandatory for authorities to consult children – we want these provisions to be implemented in real life. We are continuously working with children to develop safe mechanisms and spaces in which they can speak openly, provide solutions and participate effectively in decisions that influence their lives. In 2025, designated as the National Year of the Child, this mission becomes all the more important.

Children's right to information

In 2024, the **"We too have rights"** program continued to be a central pillar in child rights education, reaching 40,000 children through interactive methods and peer-to-peer education. Since its launch in 1990, the program has informed more than 1.9 million children about their rights and responsibilities under the UN Convention. Throughout the year, the organization also enjoyed a close collaboration with 300 school units, where 1,000 volunteers and teachers, trained as facilitators, addressed key topics such as child rights, tackling discrimination and preventing bullying. The well-established competition "National Children's Rights Competition" brought together 300 students from 50 schools and fostered a creative interpretation of The School Student Code of Conduct.

In 2024, the **Health Education program** rallied a powerful network of 364 specialists (328 teachers and 36 healthcare professionals) and 56 volunteers, who, after 27 training sessions, reached about 6,200 children between 3 and 17 years of age. The program covered key topics such as **nutrition**, **exercise**, **prevention of consumption of dangerous substances**, **emotional health**, **and sexual education**. The program was expanded through partnerships with 23 new educational units and ASSMB, while 320 parents and 122 teachers participated in webinars dedicated to nutrition and communication with children. The success of the initiative was highlighted during the conference organized at "Ștefan cel Mare" University in Suceava and through our regular dialogue with the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health and Suceava School Safety Office.

Supporters and partners:

Ministry of Education, Egger Romania, "Ştefan cel Mare" University in Suceava, ASSMB, CMBRAE, Romanian Police – School Safety Directorate.

Children's right to express their opinion and to participation

100 children from Bucharest and 14 counties participated in the XXIV edition of the **National Children's Forum**, where they debated and drafted proposals to enable their participation in the public decision-making process, to ensure their protection against abuse and improve psycho-emotional support services. At the end, their ideas were presented before representatives from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Senate and other public institutions. Another



National Children's Forum: the representatives of children presenting their recommendations to the National Council for Combating Discrimination

landmark event was **Children's Summit**, organized by ANPDCA, at the Government of Romania, in partnership with Save the Children Romania and other NGOs. Around 150 children joined together to talk about topics such as education, the right to participation, mental health, climate change and protection from abuse. Two Save the Children Romania volunteers facilitated workshops aimed at setting out measures to ensure children's participation and protection, providing them with the opportunity to present their opinions directly to the authorities and institutional representatives present at the meetings. The conclusions of the talks were included in a final report, later submitted to the Prime Minister's Cabinet, underlining the determination of children to be heard and involved in decisions that shape their future.

Global Campaign for Education. In 2024, the GCE focused on the inclusion of children with disabilities and ensuring quality education for them. Using materials provided by Save the Children Romania, over 600 schools organized activities with the participation of school students, parents and specialists, who talked about ways to integrate children with special educational requirements. An online questionnaire, filled in by nearly 3,500 school students and teachers, assessed the readiness of schools to provide inclusive education. So far, 450 school units reported the participation of almost **92,000 school students and preschoolers, 3,154 parents and 5,776 teachers**, and another 150 schools are expected to submit their data.

Children's participation in decisions concerning climate change. Save the Children Romania supports environmental education and the involvement of young people who are concerned about the climate crisis. Through the projects "Hot and happening" and "Imagining Climate-Just Futures", carried out in partnership with European organizations, tools such as **Speaking Minds, Building Participatory Future Scenarios** and **Local Citizens Dialogues** were developed and tested to facilitate consultation with children. In 2024, approximately 100 young people from Bucharest, Buzău, Dâmbovița and Vrancea were informed about the stages of the project, and 24 of them received special training. To further these efforts, Save the Children Romania has partnered with local authorities responsible for environment protection and education, thus launching a participatory initiative that will continue in 2025.

Supporters and partners:

Save the children Netherlands, Oxfam Intermón, Buzău County Students' Council, Dâmbovița School County Inspectorate, District 4 City Hall, Buzău City Hall, Broșteni City Hall - Vrancea, Vrancea School County Inspectorate, "Professor Panaite C. Mazilu" Secondary School, "Unirea" National College - Vrancea, School 133 - Bucharest.



VOLUNTEERS

The National Volunteering Centre of Save the Children Romania is an important support department for the training, coordination and personal development of volunteers. Here, young people learn to get involved responsibly in the organization's projects, benefiting from continuous monitoring and specific training to provide the necessary support to children and communities.

Results. 3,000 volunteers participated in Save the Children Romania initiatives, gathering over 70,000 hours of volunteering. They were involved in:

- Educational and recreational activities with children: our volunteers support
 vulnerable children by helping them with homework and organizing interactive
 events, such as Children's Carnival, where they offered gifts and organized
 festive moments.
- Social campaigns, fundraising and public events: our volunteers participate in marathons, festivals (such as UNTOLD) and volunteering fairs to raise funds for equipping maternity clinics and publicly promote the benefits of civichumanitarian involvement.

Participation and advocacy at European level. Save the Children Romania encourages the involvement of young people in key European projects to promote children's rights. 50 volunteers participated for 2 months in consultations and workshops and contributed to the drafting of the Children's Alternative Report which brought to the attention of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child key topics such as *violence against children*, mental health and the need for investment in the realization of children's rights.

Thus, through the project "Children's Advisory Board – Save the Children EU", children learned how to get involved at European level, exercise their right to participation and promote tolerance and acceptance of diversity. One of the organization's volunteers went before the European Parliament and the European Commission to present the conclusions of a survey to which more than 9,000 European children responded. Children also attended the first General Assembly of the EU Children's Participation Platform in Brussels, where they interacted and spoke directly with decision-makers about topics of significance for their lives. Furthermore, based on the membership to SC Europe Child Advisory Board, a Save the Children Romania volunteer participated in the second pan-European meeting of SC Europe, held at the European Parliament, addressing the challenges children face online, such as abuse, internet addiction and fake news.

The role of volunteers in education and community. Locally, our volunteers organized interactive sessions in schools and consultation groups, covering topics such as child rights, discrimination, violence and emotional education. They also contributed with valuable insights to projects aimed at preventing bullying (e.g. Bullying-free schools) and promoting digital safety (through Ora de Net). Furthermore, they also promoted non-formal learning methods in disadvantaged areas by being involved in the Creathon Camp and by supporting the drafting of The School Student Code of Conduct 2.0 or through their contribution to Non-violence in Schools Day or the Mobile School initiative.

Recognition of merit and determination. International Volunteer Day (5 December) was the perfect opportunity to award our most active volunteers. Through this recognition, Save the Children Romania shows its appreciation for the hard work of young people and encourages them to continue their involvement.

Locations. Bucharest, the branches, the operating points and the locations where Save the Children Romania carries out its projects.









ADVOCACY

2025 - the National Year of the Child

Through the efforts of Save the Children Romania and ANPDCA, 2025 was designated as the "National Year of the Child", to remedy the lack of a systematic commitment towards the children in Romania, severely affected by inequality and insufficient resources. The draft law promises actual benefits, such as:

- draw the attention of the whole society to the serious problems children are facing in Romania;
- increase budgets by at least 10% annually for educational, healthcare and social assistance infrastructure;
- innovative educational programs to tackle poverty and functional illiteracy;
- train and regularly evaluate specialists in education, health, social protection and justice;
- expand mental health services and create a network for social services in vulnerable communities:
- create safe spaces for educational and recreational activities in disadvantaged areas;
- reduce regional gaps and promote partnerships between state, the private sector and NGOs.

Save the Children Romania is committed to supporting ANPDCA with an action plan for 2025. The draft law was adopted by Law no. 264/2024, published in Official Journal of Romania no. 1081 of 29 October 2024.

Prevention of gambling addiction among children

Considering the alarming expansion of the gambling industry in Romania, where spending reached the threshold of EUR 24 billion in 2022, Save the Children Romania, in partnership with Golin Romania, launched the campaign "Hunger Games" as a direct response to the concerns expressed by children at the 2023 National Children's Forum, focused on fighting against gambling addiction among minors and the absence of an appropriate legislative framework.

The multiannual campaign pursues actual objectives which were submitted to key decision-makers – Presidency, Prime Minister, Ministry of Family, Ministry of Health and 20 MPs: a total ban on gambling advertising in all media, a minimum distance of 300 meters between educational establishments and gaming halls, and raise the minimum age of access from 18 to 21 years. In 2024, the impact of the campaign was reflected both in raising public awareness, by reaching 9 million people, and in actual results of our advocacy activities, which led to a ban on slot machines in localities with less than 15,000 inhabitants.

Amendment of Law 272/2004 to ensure the participation of children in the decision-making process

Save the Children Romania, along with the Ministry of Family, UNICEF, the World Vision Foundation and FONPC, contributed to the adoption of a globally unique law: a law that regulates children's participation in the decision-making process of primary legislation. The draft, approved by the Chamber of Deputies in November 2024, supplements Law no. 272/2004 by introducing real central and local mechanisms to ensure consultation of children. Save the Children Romania proposed that consultations should be mandatory, should be based on a communication format adapted to the children's level of understanding and should be organized at least three times throughout the year. However, the final text provides for a single official meeting. Consequently, we will *follow up* on how authorities schedule the consultations to make sure that preparatory activities and follow-up actions take place in order to achieve an authentic and consistent dialog with children.

The new School Student Code of Conduct

Save the Children Romania, in collaboration with the Association of Representative School Students (the former School Student Association from Constanța), coordinated the drafting of "The School Student Code of Conduct 2.0" through an extensive advisory process which involved over 1,100 students from all Romanian counties. The document suggests a series of significant legal innovations, from aligning with the provisions of the Civil Code and improving personal data protection, to strengthening the dignity of the student and modernizing disciplinary procedures. The new code introduces key elements for the safety and well-being of pupils at schools: specific rules for combating bullying and cyberbullying, an interactive online platform for information and communication with local authorities, and a protection system for pupils who report irregularities. Issues related to hygiene and health in schools have also been integrated into the project, along with a multi-level mechanism to report violations of the students' rights.





Vote for children (www.voteazapentrucopii.ro)

In order to inform the electorate about the situation of children in Romania and the responsibility political parties have to their benefit, Save the Children Romania relaunched the "Vote for children" campaign before the European Parliament elections on June 9, after examining the agenda of the main political parties. Based on statistics on poverty, educational inequality, child mortality and school violence, the campaign stressed the need that the future European Parliament should prioritize the rights of the child.

Conducted through www.voteazapentrucopii.ro, the campaign was structured on two ways of involvement: a survey to assess the perception of the actual level of engagement of parties in guaranteeing children's rights and a petition to be signed by voters demanding improved policies at national and European level. In the end, 12,184 people participated as follows: 5,600 signed the petition and 6,590 answered the survey.

Tedx Cluj (22 June 2024)

Through the innovative program "Let's be friends – No bullying", the TEDx Cluj event drew public attention on bullying and its impact on the young generation. Developed by Save the Children Romania and implemented in 330 partner kindergartens across the country and in Bucharest, the program addresses the early prevention of bullying by nurturing four fundamental values - tolerance, care, respect and courage - thus creating a safe and inclusive educational environment for the harmonious development of children.

Save the Children 2nd Pan-European Meeting, Brussels (14-16 October 2024)

The second Save the Children Pan-European Meeting held in the European Parliament in October gathered around 100 participants to discuss crucial topics such as poverty, migration and online child safety. A notable moment for Romania was the much-appreciated intervention of Ioana Baltă, member of the Children's Advisory Council within Save the Children Romania, while discussions with MEP Victor Negrescu opened the perspective of a future partnership with the European Parliament in 2025 that could materialize through legislative initiatives and events.

Open letter to Romanian politicians involved in the presidential elections (December 2024)

In December 2024, Save the Children Romania sent a public letter to the new Government and parliamentary parties, calling for urgent measures to eliminate gaps when it comes to children's access to health, education and social protection. The letter, based on recent statistical data and case studies, highlighted major challenges such as the 16.6% school drop-out rate and the increase of risky behaviours among adolescents. Among the proposals, Save the Children Romania also included the need for an integrated national system to monitor the rights of children, the modernization of the infrastructure of maternity clinics and the introduction of health education in the school curriculum.



LEGAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

We provided social and legal counselling services to 1,015 beneficiaries (375 children and 640 parents), including: legal advice to 27 persons to help them obtain IDs, access social benefits, solve housing problems and conclude employment contracts; social counselling to 613 parents, on the benefits provided to families and the necessary steps to obtain them; 375 minors indirectly benefited from rights and benefits as a result of parental counselling; legal assistance to 43 children exposed to abuse or neglect, the interventions targeting housing problems, bullying and liaison with authorities.



RESEARCH

In 2024, Save the Children Romania continued to follow up closely on compliance with the rights of the child, with the purpose to maintain a sincere and open discussion about the real situation of children in Romania, providing both authorities and the general public with concrete data and proposals for improvement.

To raise awareness on the major problems children from Romania were facing, the organization has conducted four analytical synthesis, each with a target audience and a milestone:

- An x-ray of the status of children, published at the beginning of 2024, in order to highlight the main risks and challenges describing the Romanian society.
- A National Summary (20 November) launched on the centennial commemoration
 of the Geneva Declaration, aimed at recalling the fundamental values on the
 protection and rights of the child.
- An Analysis with recommendations to the political parties (June) that participated in the European Parliament elections, to make sure their plans of action were better anchored in the reality of children.
- An Open letter to the members of the new Government and Parliament (December), inviting them to rethink child-oriented policies and budgets.

Furthermore, as part of Romania's evaluation by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, Save the Children Romania submitted, at the end of the year, two key documents:

- Report of children in Romania, which directly reflects the voice and perspective of the children.
- General technical report highlighting the main problems encountered while ensuring the rights of the child and the areas that require immediate intervention.

In addition to these more comprehensive materials, we also published numerous thematic reports, often based on consultations with children or their parents. The topics examined included:

- Child safety and protection the impact of social media, exposure to gambling, bullying, school climate and cases of violence against children.
- Access to quality education reasons for abandoning school and school failure, especially in light of the results of the national assessment; inequalities in the education system at the beginning of the school year; students' perception of career guidance.
- The needs of refugee families and children in Romania following the conflict in Ukraine – how these children may be helped to integrate and feel safe in the host communities.
- The state of health of children the situation of mothers and minor pregnant women, inequalities in accessing medical care, consumption of dangerous or prohibited substances in adolescents and the challenges of the Romanian health system.
- The consequences of parents' economic migration how children left at home lack emotional, financial and educational support, as well as possible solutions to reduce this negative impact.

DONATIONS FOR CHILDREN

Direct Debit - In 2024, Save the Children Romania had the most active Direct Debit team, with 38,125 active donors. This recurring donation mechanism allows the constant support of the organization's causes by automatically debiting donors' bank accounts. The funds raised due to the generosity of our donors in Bucharest, Cluj-Napoca, Brașov and Iași contributed significantly to our campaigns to provide maternity clinics with modern medical equipment.



Redirecting 3.5% of the income tax – the annual campaign to redirect 3.5% of the tax due to the state provides individuals with the opportunity to support Save the Children Romania activities. Persons who earn income from salaries, pensions or self-employment may fill in form 230 on www.salvaticopiii.ro/redirectioneaza. 8,837 forms were collected in 2024, versus 6,679 in 2023.

Online donations – Online contributions ensure the sustainability of Save the Children Romania projects in key areas such as education, health and the protection of vulnerable children. In 2024, the organization received 3,237 unique donations, compared to 2,746 in 2023.

Donations via SMS – A quick and affordable way of support is to send an SMS to 8844 with the text "SALVEZ", thus contributing with 2 euro / month to providing equipment to maternity clinics. This year, the number of recurring donors reached 15,120.

Corporate tax sponsorships – companies and SMEs may direct up to **20% of the corporate tax** every year to support premature babies, through a sponsorship contract concluded as per legal provisions.

The Save the Children Romania team of **1,193 runners who participated in the Bucharest Half Marathon** managed to raise funds for the renovation and equipping of the Operating Block, ICU and Neonatology wards of the Polizu Maternity Clinic within the "Alessandrescu-Rusescu" National Health Institute for Mother and Child. Here doctors save newborns with extreme prematurity, take care of complex pathologies of newborns and women, from minor interventions to oncological surgery.



CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

The 24th edition of the Christmas Tree Festival, organized in partnership with **The National Museum of Art of Romania**, successfully raised one million euros to help restore equal access to education for vulnerable children. The unique Christmas trees, created and donated by renowned artists, were auctioned during the Gala Evening, and each bid contributed to the hope of a better future through equal access to education. As a result, 15,000 children will benefit from socio-educational support, thanks to the solidarity of kind-hearted people.

The artists who created this edition's unique trees are:

Doina Levintza • Omid Ghannadi & Le Store • Adela Pârvu Design & Neon Lighting • Diana Nicolaie & Ela Crăciun • Untold Creative Team • Laura Hîncu & Creativ Interior • Mihai Popescu & Twins Studio • Dhaniel Nora, with the support of Sephora • Smiley & HaHaHa Production • Endorphin Lab - Adonis Enache & Atelier Dual • Nicu Bocancea & Iris Flower Shop • Simona & Gabriel Gherasim – Gallantique Boutique & prof. Anca Iorga • Andreea Mogoșanu, Moogu & Jovsky Studio • Architectural Christmas - Ana & Maria Mohonea • Roxana Achim & Teilor • Summer Well Creative Lab & Kaustik • Gheorghe Lișița • Oana Manoliu, in collaboration with Dan Manoliu & Mariana Chisar – TVR • Oana Vlădilă and Oana Mirea - House of VLAdiLA • Iulia Totoianu & Libris • arh. Roxana Dan – Studium on Space | Lisa & Co. • Damiana Păun – Vorbește Lumea, ProTV.

They were joined by Save the Children Romania, with the support of Stefania Mircea.



The event succeeded in mobilizing companies for which the common good is a priority, and together they raised a total of **one million euros**, coming from the auction of the Christmas trees, raffle ticket sales, and sponsorships. The presence of distinguished guests, such as the Minister of Health, Professor Alexandru Rafila, and the State Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Diana-Ștefana Baciuna, emphasized the evening's central message: "Education is a universal right, and the lack of it should never condemn a child to marginalization."

The most sought-after Christmas trees at the auction were: *The Guardian of Dreams*, created by **Doina Levintza**; *Cheers*, the result of a collaboration between **Omid Ghannadi** and **Le Store**; and *The Magic of Christmas*: *The Enchanted Top Hat*, created by **Save the Children with the support of Ștefania Mircea** — each of which exceeded €100,000. Under the thoughtful guidance of hosts Andreea Raicu and Marius Pancu, alongside Omid Ghannadi, the event radiated emotion and hope, reminding us all that united by the desire to do good, we can offer vital support to thousands of children in Romania.

2024 Edition PARTNERS:

Diamond Sponsors: Catena • RBC • Banca Transilvania • KULTHO Forever Diamonds

Platinum Sponsors: Smart Soft Power • Mastercard • BCR • ELI PARKS • Kaufland România • MAPEI Romania • Oscar Downstream

Gold sponsors: Clifford Chance Badea • Garanti BBVA • PEPCO România • Sky XS Aircargo • BN Business • Renovatio Trading

Silver sponsors: Mondial Assistance • CIT ONE • Giscad • Hellimed • Hils Development • Maresi • NEXT • Porsche Finance Group • Rompetrol • Terapia • Viatris • Epack • GiscoMed Healthcare

Special thanks: TUI Travel, Obsentum, DENT ESTET, BDG, TIFF, Wild Olive, Ivatherm, The Home, Davino, Douglas România, Beautik, UNTOLD, Essilor, Saga Space, Optimize Body Center, Kiehl's, Niran, GETT'S, Depozitarul Central, Lisa & Co, Purcari, UNDA, SpotOn, Millennium Tour, Country Spa, Miraj București, Matca, KULTHO Forevever Diamonds, Hype Arena & Kiddo Play Academy, Beauty Connection, PURPLE FLOWERS, Le Store, MOOGU, Amalin by Andreea Raicu, Babyliss, Jovsky Studio, Hadar Chalet, Leonidas, Atra Doftana, Conacul Secuiesc, Epoque Hotel, IAKI Hotel, Shinzo Spa, Summer Well, Iosa Bijuterii, my Geisha, Indira, Gallantique Boutique & prof. Anca Iorga, Daskalides, Rowenta.

The buyers of the 2024 Christmas Trees: Catena, Kaufland România, BCR, Romanian Business Consult, PEPCO România, KRUK România, Tonica Group, Smart Soft Power, Mastercard, Renovatio Trading, Garanti BBVA, Fildas, GiscoMed Healthcare, Andrei Tinca, Hellimed, Veranda, Laura Hîncu.

Organizing committee: Florentina Costea, Andreea Nicoleta Deliu-Pașol, Omid Ghannadi, Cristian Hordilă, Amalia Năstase, Dhaniel Nora, Andreea Raicu, Ionuț Stanimir, Ioana Chereji, Gabriela Alexandrescu.



SPONSORS AT THE CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL 2024

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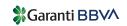


GOLD SPONSORS -













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IMPACT, COLLABORATIONS, AWARDS

Impact online

In 2024, the www.salvaticopiii.ro website was accessed **391,312 times** by **233,025 unique visitors**.

The Save the Children Romania Facebook page (facebook.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania) continued to rank first in top accessed Facebook pages of nonprofit organizations, with a reach of **6,706,124** people and **862,523** people following the page.

The Instagram account (Instagram.com/SalvatiCopiiiRomania), registering **22,036** followers, holds first position in the top accounts of NGOs for children, with a total reach of **1,342,078** users.

The YouTube platform (www.youtube.com/user/SalvatiCopiii) attracted **5,068,333** users.

In 2024, Save the Children had **9,019** online appearances out of the **28,766** articles included in the monitoring reports, ranking first with a 31% Share of Voice in the national child-focused NGO sector.

Partners of the General Secretariat

The Presidential Administration, the Senate of Romania - the Health Committee, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Family, Youth and Equal Opportunities, the National Authority for the Protection of the Rights of the Child and Adoption (ANPDCA), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, General Inspectorate for Immigration (IGI), Department for Emergency situations (DSU), Romanian Border Police, the National Anti-Drug Agency, the National Authority against Human Trafficking, the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, the National Administration of Penitentiaries, the Directorate for Investigating Organized Crime and Terrorism (DIICOT), the General Directorate of Police of the Municipality of Bucharest, the Prosecutor's Office attached to the Bucharest Tribunal, ASSMB, the National Company Bucharest Airports, the airports of Craiova, Cluj-Napoca, Timișoara, and Suceava, the Bucharest Municipal Center for Educational Resources and Assistance (CMBRAE), "Ştefan cel Mare" University of Suceava, the City Halls of Districts 4 and 6, the City Halls of Buzău and Brosteni-Vrancea, county centers for educational resources and assistance, county school inspectorates, the Romanian Neonatology Association, the Caravana cu Medici Association, the Project Voyager-Jobs4Ukraine Association, the Buzău County Students' Council, the European Social Network, UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, Save the Children Europe, Save the Children International, Save the Children US, Save the Children UK, Save the Children Denmark, Save the Children Netherlands, Save the Children Norway, Save the Children Sweden, general directorates for social assistance and child protection (DGASPC), public social assistance services, the UNTOLD Festival, and educational institutions.



Awards



The Civil Society Gala

Social impact Award and **Third Prize** in the Education and Learning category – Save the Children Romania, for *Innovation in preschool education* – *free from bullying kindergartens*, *Bucharest*.

Third Prize in the Social campaigns category – Save the Children Romania & Golin Romania, for the project *Preventing addiction to gambling among children* – "Hunger Games", Bucharest.



Romanian PR Award

Golden Award for Excellence for Save the Children Romania & Golin: *The smallest room*, the Healthcare communication category;

Golden Award for Excellence for Save the Children Romania & Golin: *Hunger Games*, the Public Affairs, Advocacy, Lobby category;

Silver Award for Excellence for Save the Children Romania & Golin: *The smallest room*, the NGOs category;

Silver Award for Excellence for Save the Children Romania & Golin: *Hunger games*, the Social Media category;

Silver Award for Excellence for Save the Children Romania & Golin: *Hunger Games*, the NGOs category.



2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

SAVE THE CHILDREN CONDUCTS ITS ACTIVITY THROUGH THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT AND ITS BRANCHES

TOTAL REVENUE 24,593,000 Euro

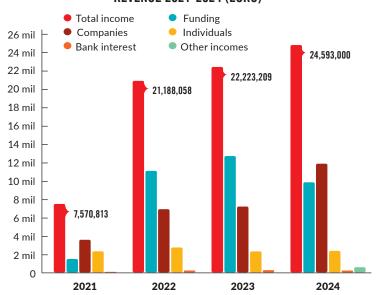


BRANCHES 1,369,964 EURO (6%)

TOTAL REVENUE - EURO	24,593,000	%
1. Sponsorships - companies	11,758,489	48%
2. Save the Children International	7,257,846	29%
3. Contributions, donations, sponsorships - individuals	2,325,996	9%
4. European funds	2,011,355	8%
5. Public institutions	476,756	2%
6. VAT reimbursement as per OMF 2438/2023	498,696	2%
7. Bank interests	201,526	1%
8. Other incomes	62,336	1%

EXPENDITURE - EURO	22,473,138	
A. PROGRAMMES:	21,613,221	96%
1. Protection of refugee children - Ukraine response	7,964,347	
2. Promoting and ensuring children's right to education	2,534,237	
 Access to education for children from disadvantaged communities 	2,438,717	
Pre-school education for disadvantaged children	95,520	
3. Child health and nutrition, education for health	8,637,383	
Equipping and revamping healthcare facilities	4,882,502	
Improving mother and child health condition	3,754,881	
4. Ensuring children's right to protection	1,443,649	
Protection of children home alone	685,281	
Children's protection on the Internet – Sigur.Info Programme	427,267	
Children's protection against violence	331,101	
5. Promoting and observing children's rights, improving the school climate and prevention of bullying	705,570	
6. Emergency situations – floods in Galați County	328,035	
B. Management and organisation	452,440	2%
C. Fundraising and communication	257,634	1%
D. Contributions to international programmes	149,843	1%

REVENUE 2021-2024 (EURO)



The financial statements of Save the Children Romania as of 31.12.2024 are audited by the Board of Auditors appointed by the organisation's General Assembly and are externally audited by **KPMG**.

PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN

We want to thank our partners supporting Save the Children causes and who understand the importance of rallying people and joining efforts so that children in Romania can have a better future. We trust you and continue to rely on your support! There is still a lot to be done for children.



OMV Petrom Foundation – The partnership with the OMV Petrom Foundation includes the modernization of 100 family medicine offices in rural areas, the provision of medical equipment for 60 neonatal wards, and the provision of 10,000 "Baby Boxes" for pregnant women and newborns from disadvantaged backgrounds. It also includes training 2,047 specialists and providing the educational materials needed to run the "Let's Be Friends" bullying prevention program in 261 kindergartens, currently working with over 28,531 children and their parents.



LIDL – After long-standing support for educational programs, in 2024 it became involved in the extensive renovation and modernization of the Polizu Maternity Hospital in Bucharest (renovation of the ICU, the Operating Theater, the Obstetrics-Gynecology IV Department, and equipping the Neonatology Department). It also supports the psycho-emotional counseling and information program on newborn care for expectant mothers receiving medical care at the Polizu Maternity Hospital.



PEPCO Romania – A key partner in programs aimed at protecting children whose parents have gone to work in other countries and preventing school dropout among disadvantaged children since 2019, has contributed to improving the protection and emotional well-being of these children and preventing them from dropping out of school. As a result, over 4,600 children and adults (caregivers or parents) in the counties of Argeş, Caraş-Severin, Dâmboviţa, Hunedoara, laşi, Mureş, Suceava, and Vaslui have benefited from support through this partnership, being included, according to their needs, in psychological, educational, and social support activities and participating in socialization and leisure activities.

Implicarea face diferența.



Kaufland Romania – A long-standing partner that has significantly supported the organization's education and protection programs. Since the beginning of the partnership, over 4,600 socio-economically vulnerable children or whose parents are working abroad have been directly supported through socio-educational services, psycho-emotional support, and material assistance.





Catena – Remains one of the most important and consistent supporters of educational programs for vulnerable children, through its sponsorship of the Christmas Tree Festival and other initiatives. Every year, over 1,300 children and their families are supported through integrated education services, material support, and socio-psychological support, enabling them to continue their studies.

BANCA TRANSILVANIA®



Banca Transilvania – Supports access to education for children from vulnerable communities by providing school supplies, material support, and socio-educational services, and has been involved in creating playgrounds for children in partner middle schools. In the 2024-2025 school year, it is supporting the implementation of the pilot vocational guidance and career counseling project "What's next?", carried out in partnership with the Bucharest *Municipal Center for Educational Resources and Assistance (CMBRAE)*.



Alliance Healthcare România – Contributes to improving the health of mothers and children in 16 disadvantaged rural communities through integrated local social and medical services for mothers, pregnant women, and children up to 5 years of age.



OMV Petrom – Joined the national program to reduce infant mortality by providing state-of-the-art equipment to the neonatal unit of the Târgu Cărbunești Emergency Hospital, contributing to improving the quality of care for newborns in Gorj County, as well as supporting the renovation of the Intensive Care Unit and Operating Theater at the Polizu Maternity Hospital.



DB Schenker – Joined the national program to reduce infant mortality by supporting the renovation and modernization of the Polizu Maternity Hospital in Bucharest, helping to ensure modern conditions in which doctors can provide high-quality care and mothers and newborns can benefit from the best medical services.



NEPI Rockcastle – Since 2021, it has been supporting the online child safety education program by conducting nationwide awareness campaigns, online and offline events, and thematic courses for teenagers.

L'BRIS

Libris – Has been supporting the infant mortality reduction program since 2014. Since then, Save the Children has received donations from over 1,000,000 Libris.ro customers, which have contributed to the purchase of high-performance medical equipment and devices for medical units in Bucharest, Iași, Brașov, Cluj, Mureș, Alba, Sălaj, and Constanța. Libris and Save the Children are also running the CarteTeca project, which has provided 1,665 schools with 35,479 books.



Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth – The program provides essential support to single mothers in Ukraine and vulnerable families in host communities, facilitating access to information and childcare sessions for easier social and economic integration. In addition, the center provides a safe environment for Romanian and Ukrainian children from single-parent or disadvantaged families, offering them educational support, recreational activities, transportation, daily meals, and services dedicated to the integration and financial autonomy of their parents.

BCR≐

Banca Comercială Română – One of our oldest and most consistent partners, supporting children's education by sponsoring the Christmas Tree Festival, ensuring the right to life for premature babies, and other initiatives of the organization. Over 1,200 children from vulnerable groups are supported each year to access education. In 2024, it also supported the renovation and modernization project of the Polizu Maternity Hospital.



Romanian Business Consult – Constantly supports access to education for children from disadvantaged communities. Its involvement in sponsoring the Christmas Tree Festival provides remedial school preparation services, school supplies, and psychosocial counseling services to children and their families.



Alpha Bank Romania – Supports the program to reduce infant mortality by participating in the renovation and modernization of the Polizu Maternity Hospital in Bucharest. It has also joined the protection and education program for children whose parents are working abroad.



Star Assembly – Supports access to education for over 100 children from vulnerable communities in Mureş County by providing school supplies, material support, socio-educational services, and psychological counseling.



Lactalis Romania – Joined the national program to reduce infant mortality by supporting the provision of high-performance equipment to medical units, such as: Marie Sklodowska Curie Children's Emergency Hospital in Bucharest, Timișoara Municipal Emergency Hospital, Cuza Vodă Obstetrics and Gynecology Hospital in Iasi, and Arad County Emergency Hospital.



Connectys – Has been supporting the national program to reduce infant mortality since 2021. In 2024 it has provided state-of-the-art equipment to the Pediatric Surgery Department of the Dr. Victor Gomoiu Children's Clinical Hospital.



Zewa România – Supports Save the Children's efforts to ensure better health conditions and services for children by supporting the renovation of the bathrooms in the Pediatrics Department of the Olteniţa Municipal Hospital in Călărași County.

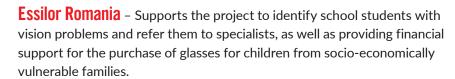


Hidroelectrica – Joined the national program to reduce infant mortality by supporting the purchase of modern medical equipment to improve the quality of medical care and services provided to children at the Dr. Constantin Opriș County Emergency Hospital in Baia Mare.









Endava – Supported educational initiatives in communities carried out as part of the Ora de Net (Internet Hour) program, within Mobile School. Using interactive boards, children learned about online safety, how to combat cyberbullying, emotion management, and personal data protection. Teachers also adapted these materials and integrated them into their lessons, thus facilitating applied learning and raising awareness of digital risks among school students.



DENT ESTET – The collaboration with DENT ESTET resulted in dental prophylaxis services and free consultations at clinics in Bucharest and Timişoara. Over 1,800 children from vulnerable groups have been helped in this way in recent years.



KPMG – Has generously and professionally provided the organization's audit since 2010.

With such responsible partners alongside us, we have faith in the future!



SPONSORS - GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Sponsors with contributions over €100,000

Alliance Healthcare Romania • Banca Transilvania • Catena • DB Schenker • OMV Petrom Foundation • Kaufland Romania • LIDL Romania • OMV Petrom • PEPCO Romania • The Association of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Sponsors with contributions between €100,000 and €50,000

Alpha Bank Romania • Zewa Romania • Hidroelectrica • Lactalis Romania • Libris • Nepi Rockcastle • Romanian Business Consult • SAP Romania • Star Assembly

Sponsors with contributions between €50,000 and €10,000

Ariston Thermo Romania B&B Collection • BDG Import • Bebetei Investments Group • Booklet • Ceetrus Conectys Serv Telecom Douglas Parfumerie • EDPR • Enigma Trading 2000 • Essilor Romania • Ronald McDonald Children's Foundation • Garanti BBVA • Gica Import Export • Gisco Med • Hulea Horia • KRUK Romania • Mapei Romania • Mastercard • Oscar Downstream • Pfizer Romania • Premium Sell • Power Service Company • Ropeco Bucuresti • Şucu Camelia Georgeta • The Charities Aid Foundation

Sponsors with contributions between €10,000 and €3,000

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Sponsors in products and services

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Logistic • Green Net
• Douglas Perfume •
RCS & RDS

Funders

European Commission -Internet Safety • Department of Romanians Everywhere • Romanian Social Development Fund - EEA and Norwegian Grants • Foundation for Civil Society Development • Google Benevity • Inhope Association • Ministry of National Education through the Human Capital Operational Program 2014-2020 (POCU) • Ministry of Investments and European Projects - EEA and Norwegian Grants 2014-2021 • Mobile School • MSD for Mothers • City Hall District 2 Bucharest Save the Children Denmark • Savethe Children Europe • Save the Children International • Save the Children Italy • Save the Children Japan • Save the Children United Kingdom • Save the Children Netherlands • Sulle Orme-Yoac Project



Thank you to all the sponsors who have chosen to support the Save the Children programs in 2024!



INVOLVEMENT OF LOCAL BRANCHES AND OFFICES



Arges -

Programs continued for children whose parents are working abroad or who come from vulnerable backgrounds, providing them with personalized educational, material, and psychological support to develop their social and emotional skills, improve their school performance, and prevent them from dropping out of school. Save the Children specialists focused on providing integrated services that meet immediate needs but also support the long-term development of children.

Caraş-Severin

10,687 children from 29 schools and high schools in urban and rural areas participated in information sessions on health education, and 17,435 children were involved in activities to raise awareness of children's rights and the safe and creative use of the internet. At the same time, social and medical services for children aged 0-5, mothers and pregnant women, and remedial education, counseling, and socio-psycho-educational support services for children from vulnerable backgrounds and children whose parents are working abroad continued.



Constanta ·

Volunteers held sessions in schools across the county on children's rights and responsibilities and provided support for after-school activities, while 40 children from disadvantaged backgrounds received educational support through after-school activities and summer kindergarten or material support. 250 mothers and pregnant women in Albeşti and Negru-Vodă benefited from integrated social and medical services.



161 children under the age of 5, mothers, and pregnant women in Breasta and Malu Mare received social and medical support, while over 160 children from vulnerable backgrounds or with parents working abroad received social, psychological, and educational services. At the same time, support for children with special educational needs was an important objective, for which counseling activities and a specialized course for teachers were organized.





Hunedoara ·

Over 450 children participated in social, psychological, and educational support activities and received a hot meal every day, while also being involved in educational, recreational, and non-formal activities. Caravans in rural areas contributed to the personal and emotional development of 250 children. The children enjoyed learning about topics that were of interest to them, such as the solar system and 3D technology, in an interactive and modern way, using VR glasses and 3D pencils.

• lasi

Over 100 parents, 200 specialists, and 80 children benefited from psychological assistance, parenting sessions, or training, as appropriate. Information sessions were held to prevent risky behavior, and socio-psycho-educational support services were provided for vulnerable children, working in parallel with teachers and parents to improve collaboration and recognize signs of child abuse. Forty children hospitalized in the pediatric oncology ward of the "Sf. Maria" Hospital in Iaşi enjoyed art workshops, puppet theater, and films.





Mures -

1,628 children and 425 parents and legal guardians benefited from integrated services. Workshops were organized for 150 teenagers and recreational activities for 350 children as part of the Children's Festival. 870 teachers and 5,150 parents/legal guardians participated in information sessions on the protection of children whose parents are working abroad, while 1,372 children were informed about children's rights.

· Neamt

198 mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 0-5 from the communes of Săbăoani and Bahna benefited from integrated social and medical services. Two hundred "Baby Boxes" were distributed, and information sessions on pregnancy and newborn care were held. Social, psychological, and educational support services continued for children whose parents had gone to work in other countries, and information sessions on topics of interest were held in 25 schools.



Timiş

During 2024, 3,938 children and parents in western Romania received support through Save the Children programs. 2,143 children participated in emotional development activities, while 177 children aged 0-5 received medical consultations and 275 young mothers and mothers-to-be received counseling and were accompanied when seeing the doctor. Over a period of six months, 122 children hospitalized with acute and chronic conditions and 55 parents benefited from emotional therapy services.

Vaslui -

313 mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 0-5 from Dragomirești and Oșești were supported through the national maternal and child health program. At the same time, activities were carried out to promote children's rights and a healthy lifestyle, with over 500 children receiving information on these topics, as well as educational and psychosocial support for children whose parents are working in other countries.



Local Annual Control of the Control

Braşov

3,500 school students were involved in interactive activities on a healthy lifestyle and children's rights, while over 150 parents participated in workshops on preventing bullying/cyberbullying, substance abuse, and a healthy lifestyle. Over 100 children participated in workshops on developing social and emotional skills, and teachers were trained to better respond to the needs of children with SEN and/or disabilities.

Clui

42 children benefited from educational and social services at the Day Center for Vulnerable Children through after-school activities held at the Tureni Middle School. The children also benefited from remedial education, a hot meal, teaching materials, and school supplies.



Dâmboviţa

3,061 preschoolers participated in bullying prevention activities and 5,507 children were informed about children's rights, healthy lifestyles, and online safety. 724 children benefited from free eye tests, and 265 children from vulnerable backgrounds and 414 mothers, pregnant women, and children aged 0-5 received integrated services.





SAVE THE CHILDREN BRANCH SUPPORTERS

Arges

Partners: Argeş County School Inspectorate, Piteşti City Hall, Argeş County Council, General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection Argeş, Social Assistance Directorate of Piteşti City, Argeş Public Health Directorate, Argeş County Center for Educational Resources and Assistance, Argeş County Directorate for Sports and Youth, Argeş County Police Inspectorate, "Dinicu Golescu" Argeş County Library, Argeş Gendarmerie Inspectorate, "Cuvântul vieții" Association Micesti, "Broboti" Association Pitesti, educational institutions.

Sponsors: Bamesa Oțel Topoloveni



Caras-Severin

Partners: Caraş-Severin County School Inspectorate, Caraş-Severin Teachers' Training Center, Caraş-Severin County Center for Educational Resources and Assistance, Caraş-Severin Center for Drug Evaluation, Prevention and Counseling, Caraş-Severin County Police Inspectorate, Caraş-Severin Public Health Directorate, Reşiţa City Hall, educational institutions.

Media partners: Jurnal de Caraș-Severin, Reper 24, Radio Reșița, Banat TV.

Constanta

Partners: Mangalia City Hall, Negru Vodă City Hall, Albești City Hall, Constanța County Center for Educational Resources and Assistance, Constanța County School Inspectorate, Callatis Theoretical High School in Mangalia, Negru Vodă Theoretical High School, Mangalia Secondary School No. 1, educational institutions.

Doli

Partners: Dolj County School Inspectorate, DGASPC Dolj, Dolj Public Social Assistance Service, Community Police, Dolj County Police Inspectorate, Malu Mare Town Hall, Breasta Town Hall, Predești Town Hall, Alexandru Macedonski Secondary School Craiova, Craiova Technological High School of Automotive Transport, Sfântul Mina Special Secondary School, Charles Laugier High School, Decebal" Secondary School Craiova, educational institutions in Dolj and Olt counties.

Funder: Rettet das Kind.

Sponsors: TERRAFARM, CEZ Vânzare.

Hunedoara

Funders/Partners: County Agency for Payments and Social Inspection Hunedoara, Hunedoara County Police Inspectorate, D.G.S.A.P.C. Hunedoara, ITM Deva, Petrila Social Assistance Directorate, Petrila City Police, Constantin Brâncuși Technical College Petrila and structures, I. D. Sîrbu Petrila and structures, Mihai Eminescu National College Petroșani, Carmen Sylva National College of Informatics Petroșani, Dragomir Hurmuzescu Technical College Deva, Sîntămaria Orlea Secondary School.

Sponsors: Petrila Town Hall, SC Zona D SRL Petroşani, Electro Promex, AS TechSOUP, SC Iulian Transfor SRL Petrila, Comexim R SRL, SC Maria Antonia Servicii SRL Petroşani, Dragalina Dolce, individuals.

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Media partners: Europa Fm, Iași TV Life, Radio Hit, TVR Iași, Iașul Nostru.

Mures

Funders/Partners: Mureş County Council, Social Assistance Department of Târgu Mureş, Târgu Mureş City Hall, Mureş County School Inspectorate, Mureş County Police Inspectorate, DGASPC Mureş, National Agency against Trafficking in Persons – Regional Center Târgu Mureş, National Anti-Drug Agency – Center for Prevention, Evaluation, and Anti-Drug Counseling Mureş, Nadeş City Hall, Mica City Hall, Mureş County Library.

Sponsors: Darina store chain, Teconnex Europe Cluj, CMI Dr. Neagoe Meda, Salute Vestra Cluj, Herlitz Romania, Publicistic, Expert Consult, Consicont, Karmedofta, Euro Gas Systems, Pharmics.

Neamţ

Partners: General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection Neamt, Neamt County Council, Prefect's Office – Neamt County, Neamt Public Health Directorate, Neamt County School Inspectorate, Neamt Territorial Labor Inspectorate, Neamt County Police Inspectorate, educational institutions.

Sponsors: Roman City Hall – Tax and Revenue Department, Târgu Neamţ City Hall – Tax and Revenue Department, "Ardealul" Pharmacies Piatra Neamţ, Central Plaza Hotel Piatra Neamţ, "Geneza" Store Târgu Neamţ, "Sf. Dimitrie" City Hospital Târgu Neamţ, M&B Autotest Piatra Neamţ.

Timiş

Partners: General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection Timiş, Timiş County School Inspectorate, Louis Țurcanu Children's Emergency Hospital, Timişoara, Timişoara Municipality Social Assistance Directorate, Resilience and Community Mobilization Service, Arad Social Assistance Directorate Association of Practitioners and Specialists in Social Economy (APSES), National Agency against Trafficking in Persons – ANITP Timişoara, LOGS - Social Initiatives Group, family medicine and paediatrics practices, Checea Town Hall, Jimbolia Town Hall, Moşniţa Nouă Town Hall, Liebling Town Hall, Sânnicolau Mare Town Hall, educational institutions.

Sponsors: Aptiv Technology Services Solution, Campo D'Oro, Maresi Foodbroker, British School, Euro Sign Production, RCW Romania, Flexik Automation, Sherwin Williams Balkan, Endava Timişoara, Enigma Trading 2000, Mol Foundation for the Community, Rudolf Walther Foundation, Bega Turism, Iulius Mall Timişoara.

Vaslui

Partners: Vaslui County School Inspectorate, Vaslui County Police Inspectorate, Vaslui County Center for Educational Resources and Assistance, Vaslui County Council, D.G.A.S.P.C. Vaslui, town halls, local councils, Vaslui County Hospital, school units, Balsam Negresti Pharmacy.

Media partners: Monitorul de Vaslui, Vremea nouă, Obiectiv de Vaslui, Anonimus.

Sponsors: Dem-Dyo-Lux Negrești.

Braşov

Partners: Braşov County School Inspectorate, CJRAE Braşov, Braşov General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection, Braşov Social Assistance Directorate, Braşov County Police Inspectorate, Braşov School Safety Office, Braşov National Anti-Drug Agency, ANITP Braşov, Micu Bogdan Foundation Braşov, "Nicolae Orghidan" Secondary School No. 9 Braşov, Braşov Sustainable Development Agency, Children's Palace Braşov, SoundBox Music Academy Braşov, "George Bariţiu" County Library Braşov, Jucărioteca Braşov, OAKI Junior.

Sponsors: Ethica Distribuție, ENDAVA Brașov, NN Life Insurance.

Dâmboviţa

Partners: Dâmbovița Prefecture, General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection Dâmbovița, Dâmbovița County School Inspectorate, Dâmbovița County Center for Educational Resources and Assistance, Târgoviște City Hall, Târgoviște Social Assistance Directorate.





President: Mihai Gafencu

Executive President: Gabriela Alexandrescu

General Secretariat

Intr. Ștefan Furtună no 3, 1st district, 010899, Bucharest, România

phone: +40 21 316 61 76, +40 744 360 915

e-mail: secretariat@salvaticopiii.ro

web: www.salvaticopiii.ro

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Branches

ARGES

President: † Dumitra Sima I.C. Brătianu Blvd., Bl. B3, ground floor, 110003 – Pitești phone: +40 744 360 912 e-mail: arges@salvaticopiii.ro

CARAȘ-SEVERIN

President: Măriuța Simionescu Piața 1 Decembrie 1918 no. 7, 1st floor, 320067 - Reșița phone: +40 744 360 910

e-mail: caras-severin@salvaticopiii.ro

CONSTANȚA

President: Carmen Andrei 44 Matei Basarab St, (School no. 1), 905500 – Mangalia

phone: +40 744 360 908 / 0752 025 917

phone/fax: +40 341 146 691 e-mail: constanta@salvaticopiii.ro

DOLI

President: Cornelia Pasăre 2 Beethoven St. (Beethoven School), Craiova phone/fax: +40 251 419 391 e-mail: dolj@salvaticopiii.ro

HUNEDOARA

President: Ivona-Viviana Brădescu-Bădulescu 60 Cartier 8 Martie St.

(Kindergarten no. 2), 335800 - Petrila

phone: +40 726 166 173 phone/fax: +40 254 550 618 e-mail: hunedoara@salvaticopiii.ro

IAŞI

President: Ioana Atasiei 6 Ion Simionescu St., PT. 15, cartier Dacia, 700407 - Iași phone: +40 742 281 121 phone/fax: +40 232 219 986 e-mail: iași@salvaticopiii ro

MURES

President: Meda Neagoe 24A Budai Nagy Antal St., 540004 - Târgu Mureș phone: +40 722 396 444 phone/fax: +40 265 250 121/128 e-mail: mures@salvaticopiii.ro

NEAMŢ

President: Eugen Simion Street 1 Decembrie 1918 no. 68, 610219 –

Piatra Neamț

phone: +40 733.083.336 e-mail: neamt@salvaticopiii.ro

TIMIŞ

President: Mihai Gafencu 1 Republicii Blvd.

building B, ap. 7, Timișoara

phone/fax: +40 256 212 996/0256 212 196

e-mail: timis@salvaticopiii.ro

VASLUI

President: Vasile Mariciuc Street 1 Decembrie no. 3 (Negrești High School), 735200 - Negrești phone: +40 744 360 917 phone/fax: +40 235 457 582 e-mail: vaslui@salvaticopiii.ro

Local offices

BRASOV

Local coordinator: Carmen Clinci 18 Brazilor St. (Nicolae Orghidan no 9 School, building B), 500313 – Brașov phone: +40 744 360 911/+40 769 488 896 e-mail: brasov@salvaticopiii.ro

DÂMBOVITA

Local coordinator: Dana Zoe 3 Moldovei St., (Prof. Paul Bănică School), Târgoviște phone: +40 722 758 306

e-mail: dambovita@salvaticopiii.ro

CLUJ

Local coordinator: Daniela Cazan Strada Principală no. 205, Tureni Locality (Tureni School), Cluj county

phone: +40744 538 664 e-mail: cluj@salvaticopiii.ro





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The photos included in this report were taken by: Cristina Adam, Ștefan Banu, Alin Dobrin, Alexandru Domnișoru, Bogdan Mustățea, Eduard Oti, Claudiu Popescu, Dan Saulea, Brother M Entertainment.

For 35 years, Save the Children Romania has been constantly innovating to the benefit of children, developing social programmes and public policies that generate a real and sustainable impact. The organization's main mission is to support the most vulnerable children living in Romania, through direct interventions and continuous dialog with the public authorities, making sure that the best interests of the child become an absolute priority. Its extensive experience at national level allows it to work as a bridge between the civil society and public institutions, carefully monitoring whether the rights of the child are complied with. At the same time, Save the Children Romania fosters solidarity among companies and communities, generating initiatives that encourage everyone to engage in shaping a safer and fairer future.

As a member of Save the Children Association – the largest independent organization dedicated to the rights of the child, with 30 members and active programs in 108 countries – Save the Children Romania plays a role in envisioning a world where every child can enjoy the right to life, education, protection and participation. Over its 35 years of activity, the organization has successfully engaged with more than 4,159,000 children through its programmes and campaigns which generated profound changes in their lives, a proof that a responsible and creative approach can lead to a better future for every child.

