

# HAPPY HANDS

EVS: 1 March 2017- 26 September 2017

## Berzasca Romania



### PROJECT PRIORITIES

- Youth Participation & Work
- Non-formal education
- Intercultural/intergenerational education
- Creativity and culture

### 8 Volunteers from:

Germany.....	2
Greece.....	2
Italy.....	2
Spain.....	2

### PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- School after School: non-formal educational activities for underprivileged children and youth;
- Community in Action: awareness campaign, workshop, etc.
- Waves of Visibility: the local community is an eclectic mix of nationalities (Romanians, Czechs, Serbs and Roma) that form a great platform for raising awareness on culture and traditions (including the volunteers)
- Romanian language class and other activities of the organization and administrative task.

### GENERAL INFO

“Happy Hands” is born from the desire of the Sirinia’s member to give a chance not only to the community but also to the volunteers thanks to a life changing experience that they will have in their stage. Our objectives within this project are to:

- increase the level of education and future opportunities for children and youth through a consistent program of non-formal educational activities;
- foster curiosity and positive attitudes towards other cultures of the world, through inter-cultural events in the community;
- educate expectations for their own future for the youngsters, especially by promoting European opportunities in the field of youth and promoting active citizenship;
- enhancing the international dimension of our activities by partnering with European organizations, through the best praxis exchange;
- showcase the intrinsic beauty and value of remote, rural areas of Romania, which conceal great potential, by creating a context for living and working there for 8 foreign volunteers;
- provide a true learning experience in a non-formal environment for 8 young people from Germany, Greece, Italy and Spain.



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## **BERZASCA**

Is a border town, situated on the Danube, 55 km of large boilers named “Cazanele Mari”, the wonderful sight on the Danube, 100 km from the Iron Gates (Portile de Fier) and Baile Herculane resort- famous since Roman times. The nearest border crossing point is Naidăș and the distance between Berzasca and Belgrade is 200 km. In the Danube Gorge up to Orșova there were found traces of Turkish and Austro-Hungarian influences; also, the Poncova cave, famous for its stalactites and stalagmites, is in this area. Several castles of Maria Theresa are scattered around both banks of the Danube - the Romanian one and the Serbian one. The nearest international airport is 200 km away, in Timisoara. Berzasca is located in an area rich in resources, but very poorly explored. This last fact is something we want to change through constant international presence in Berzasca. Young people nowadays have greater mobility opportunities. All the volunteers that we host in Berzasca have expressed their intention to come back, and few of them already come on vacation in Berzasca after their projects. The area of Berzasca is considered an Underprivileged Mountainous Area. Its population of approximately 2000 people lives in geographical isolation, made worse by the meager transport infrastructure into the village. This recluseness has kept the potential of the area from flourishing; the isolation has impacted not only the economical status of the area, but also the human spirit and state of mind, which has been perpetuated from the parents to the children.



### **PROJECT-SPECIFIC INFO**

“Happy Hands” will have a weekly program of non-formal activities for children between 6 – 15 years old, providing after-school activities. The activities foreseen will take place both indoors and outdoors. The methodology used will be no formal; of the activities that will take place we can enumerate: learning-by playing, role-play, theater, name games, sports activities, cooking workshops, quizzes, painting, handicraft-making, foreign language workshops arts and crafts, sports competitions; healthy lifestyle and personal hygiene workshops. This sector of activities will generate impact locally, among the population of Berzasca, through engagement of the locals in various themed-campaigns, on topics ranging from environment protection (such as “Let’s Do It, Romania!”), human rights (such as a human chain), European concerns and citizenship (public debate); education and social responsibility.

**For more information check out our Facebook page**

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**or write us at [asociatia\\_sirinia@yahoo.com](mailto:asociatia_sirinia@yahoo.com)**



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