

Report

World Social Work Day in Romania

ASproAS calls on everyone in Romania to stand up for the development of social services and the employment of professional social workers. Investment in social services is a precondition for individual well-being and sustainable growth of communities.

Social workers and social services are directly linked to economic and social development. Through the services they provide, social workers empower those people to become actively involved in building up the communities, who are left behind by the economic development ("modernization losers")

Social workers are taking care that people are resilient in their moment of changes and challenges and motivate them to be strong and active in their communities. They involve or represent the disadvantaged and make them able to contribute to decisions regarding the community and to understand the effects of their decisions.

Events around Romania:

Living Library in Social Work



This is an informal education method to foster mutual understanding of the role of social workers and the successful functioning of services they provide. The Living Library in Social Work is designed to build a positive framework for exchange of experience and discussions. It is a place, where questions about the needs of wise investments are raised. The social workers that volunteer to be "human books" are the ones active every day in providing social services. They describe about their work and their contribution to the enhancement of well-being in the community.

The Living Library in Social Work has been started in Romania in 2013. For the first time, this year the idea of Living Library in Social Work has been picked up by Romanian colleagues in Italy and they also organize such an event in Rome.

“Ora de asistenta sociala”

An hour to inform and discuss about social work in high schools and colleges.



Professional social work is introduced by ASproAS activists as a choice for professional studies and future occupation. ASproAS provides information material and encourages and supports social workers to visit classes in high schools and colleges to inform about the profession. Questions on possibilities to study social work are answered and discussions about content and challenges in social work are discussed. Apart from different ways of offering services, the beneficiaries' situation and problems of marginalized and socially excluded individuals and/or groups in society is also addressed.

Given the success of this years' experience, ASproAS will continue to promote and organize the initiative “Ora de asistenta sociala” about social work as a study field in schools and colleges.

Lobby in the Romanian Parliament



Ana Radulescu and Herbert Paulischin arranged meetings with Members of Parliament and informed them on the World Social Work Day, as well as on the contribution of social workers to the social development of society. On March 21st, all Romanian Members of Parliament received information about professional social

worker and the role of social workers providing social services in communities. The importance of investing in the development and improvement of social work services as a crucial condition for social peace and stability in society has been discussed.

Appearance in public and activities in the streets



Social workers choose a creative way of getting attention and rising awareness about the need of social services in the community and the role of professional social work. Several groups of social workers in various Romanian cities visited pedestrian areas and entered shopping malls and supermarkets. They involved people in talks about social issues and informed about the profession of social work and promoted a positive image of social services.

Social Work Debates



Social workers met with politicians, journalists, and representatives of ministries,

public institutions and trade unions that are relevant to social work. They discussed their impact on further development of social work and social services. Politicians and decision makers were requested to think about the social services they want to have and their position related to key social work issues. The most important topic of the debates was the future development of professional social work in Romania and the need of better and more investments in social services. Poverty and social exclusion cannot be answered just by financial benefits. Integrated services at community level targeting all relevant fields of life – education, housing, employment, health, ... - have to become a common standard in social welfare societies and professional social work shall be the leading profession in this development.

Open Door Events in Social Services



Social services opened their doors to visitors to show their activities and the support they provide for the community members. Local decision makers, pupils, students in social work, members of community had an opportunity to learn about social workers and social services in the community. The existing services also were presented as a resource for referrals and part of a support network for vulnerable people in the communities.

We thank you all for standing up for better and more investments in social services and speaking out about the role of social workers in our society.

Thanks to social workers that took part and that were actively involved.

It is you who have made the difference making the world a better place for those who need support.

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