

Youth fund Maksuda

This is an initiative of the young people volunteers of Co- participation Association and of the St.Andrey Social Association to support families who have fallen in critical situations related to the shortage of funds for satisfying vitally important needs.

The lack of funds is usually the reason for permanent or irretrievable family damages which affects mostly children who are brought up in them for example their abandonment in institutions, dropping out from school, systematic malnutrition, marginalization, etc.

Why did we call the fund youth fund?

The fund is a youth fund because it is governed by young people. Young people of the young volunteers' group participate in its Managing committee.

The fund is a youth fund because information about families in critical situations is collected mostly due to the young volunteers.

Young people are the ones who inform about the problem and decide how it is going to be overcome. We, the people with Co- participation Association and St.Andrey Social Association help them so that young people can be more confident in looking for better solutions.

Why does the fund bear the name Maksuda?

This is the name of the largest Roman neighbourhood in Varna. Because Maksuda symbolizes the ghetto but at the same time it is a place where one can find anything from our society.

Because most of the young volunteers live in Maksuda and the fund's resources are going to be directed mostly to families living in Maksuda.

How big is the fund?

The fund is as big as the good deeds that can be done due to its resources. We know that a lot can be achieved with not so much money given in due time with understanding and support.

Our first donors

They are young Germans from Friedrichshafen, Offenburg who as young entrepreneurs worked voluntarily in a bakery and a car wash made by themselves. They donated 2268 euro they earned to our volunteers to support them in their work with the people of their age with social disadvantages.

Youth fund Maksuda's rules of functioning

1. The fund shall be managed by a Managing committee (MC). The resolutions for granting financial aid shall be passed by the Fund's MC. The Managing committee shall not have legal status.

2. The MC shall consist of 5 members elected by the general meeting of volunteers. One of the MC's members shall be replaced by another in every six months. The place of the member who left (defined on a lottery basis) shall be taken by a new member elected by the general meeting of volunteers.

3. The Fund's Managing committee shall discuss every case submitted by the volunteers or by the people who are interested. Every session shall be presided by a different member of the MC in turns.
4. The MC's sessions shall be open. The people who have submitted the signal shall be present on them as well as all the people who wish to be involved in the case's resolution. All the people present on the session shall be entitled to discuss and to offer ideas drawing up an operation plan. The operation plan achieved shall be approved by all the people present.
5. At least one mentor shall be present on the MC's sessions. The mentors shall be elected by the volunteers who are mediators, social workers, pedagogues, psychologists or other experts experienced in the work with young people and families. The mentors shall participate in the discussion of the cases and in drawing up the operation plans. The mentors shall be entitled to advise the MC and to observe keeping the discussion and election rules. They shall not participate in voting the MC's resolutions.
6. Discussion of every case by the MC shall require making analysis of the family's situation and undertaking an operation plan. Granting funds is a part of the entire plan for work with the particular family.
7. The plan approved for work with the family should consist of specific activities necessary to be performed. The plan should reflect the engagements and responsibilities of the people (volunteers, social workers, etc.) who support the family as well as the engagements and responsibilities of the family itself. The plan shall be in writing.
8. Spending the fund's resources shall be observed by a coordinator. He/ she shall be responsible for the correct accounting of resources, shall follow the resources' spending, shall draw up profit and expenditure reports of the Fund.
9. The confidentiality principle shall be kept in discussing every case.

(These rules were voted and approved by the general meeting of volunteers dated 04.12.2013)