

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



**“We work for a society that accepts diversity, where people are healthy and support one another. Everyone has equal access to quality health services, according to their needs.”**

## The values of the organization

- The courage to intervene in crisis situations;
- Responsibility towards beneficiaries, partners and resources;
- Activism and civic action;
- Providing trust to beneficiaries and demonstrating empathy towards their problems;
- Persistence in all actions;
- Professionalism in the activities carried out;
- Respect for collaborators and beneficiaries;
- Integrity and honesty;
- Persuasion and perfectionism;
- Working power and efficiency.

## SHORT DESCRIPTION OF SASTIPEN

**SASTIPEN** - The Roma Center for Health Policies, established in 2007, is a nongovernmental organization that promotes social dialogue, participation and community involvement in the decision-making structures regarding the public health policies of Roma and non-Roma citizens and whose areas of interest are: analysis and development of health policies; strategies and interventions of public health, especially in communities with Roma, in order to improve the socio-sanitary situation of the members of this minority; community development of disadvantaged groups in Romania.

The staff of the **SASTIPEN** organization is composed of young Roma and non-Roma activists, with extensive experience in developing and implementing projects / programs addressed to Roma communities, in carrying out analyzes / studies / research that reflect the situation of Roma communities, with experience in implementation and implementation of information and awareness campaigns for members of communities with Roma, with experience in delivering training sessions for adults, in implementing advocacy campaigns, etc.

**SASTIPEN** considers that in Romania the Roma population faces an aggressive model of social exclusion. Addressing the issue of Roma, in terms of health, must be understood and worked on the effects (high incidence of tuberculosis in the Roma community, number of HIV / AIDS, child malnutrition, lack of access of Roma population at the health services, etc.)

**SASTIPEN** has as main areas of interest the analysis and development of health policies, as well as strategies and interventions of public health, especially in the communities with Roma, in order to improve the health situation of the members of this minority. At the same time, Sastipen has a special interest in promoting health and changing behaviors, as well as community development of disadvantaged groups in Romania.

**SASTIPEN** promotes social dialogue, participation and community involvement in the process of making public policy decisions by improving communication between the administrative structures of the authorities and communities at local, national and international level, as well as by notifying the competent bodies when those human rights are violated.

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## Foreword

Dear friends,

We present below the activity report of the Sastipen organization for the year 2021. As always, it is very difficult for me to make a short description of the activity of the organization implemented in the previous year and it is equally difficult for me to highlight the notable results that we had them in 2021. It is certain that in 2021 our organization continued to respond to the challenges and to adapt to the measures imposed by the competent authorities in the field of prevention COVID 19 in the context in which all the projects implemented by the organization involve direct work with Roma beneficiaries.

Starting with September 2020, our organization, as a partner, implements two important projects for members of vulnerable communities in the region of South Muntenia Region aimed at implementing a complex program for prevention, early detection (screening), diagnosis and early treatment of cervical cancer uterine and colorectal cancer. The activities for which we are responsible involve direct interaction with people in the community and the organization of community mobilization actions with the physical participation of the beneficiaries in the project actions.

In the context in which the society was fed daily through the media with information on the high risk of COVID 19 infection and especially in the context in which the Romanian authorities did not know how to manage the information campaign of the population regarding the vaccination against COVID 19, these problems have seriously affected the implementation of activities at community level. My colleagues have made great efforts to get the beneficiaries to participate in the screening activities organized in these projects. What did I learn from this experience? That we must make every effort to communicate with the beneficiaries, to respect the decisions of the beneficiaries, to be patient with them and to support them to make the right decision.

On the other hand, if we analyze the activity in the field of health mediation implemented by our organization, the pandemic situation COVID 10 taught us to use virtual reality as a working tool in relation to health mediators active locally. If in previous years it was almost impossible to maintain permanent contact with health mediators, in 2021 we managed to communicate daily, in online format, with groups of health mediators, thus developing a useful discussion platform for both health mediators and individuals who participates in qualification courses in the field of health mediation.

In this way we managed to reactivate the network of health mediators, to hold courses and to have debates with health

mediators so that their work is reflected at the level of Roma communities, communities that need health education and guidance to access public services.

Also in 2020, we had the opportunity to review and adapt the procedures for the operation of integrated community service centers to the needs of the local community based on the principle of integrated approach and Roma participation in the decision-making process.

Our organization has a tradition in the development of integrated service centers, since its establishment until today, managing to develop and maintain a number of 42 community integrated service centers. Starting with January 2021, at the level of three rural localities (Hamcerca, Ciucurova and Polovragi) our association has developed integrated service centers that offer free services to the members of the 3 localities.

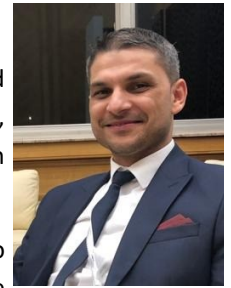
What did I come up with this time? We try to combine the activity of providing medical and social services with the activity of empowering the Roma and their involvement in the decision-making process at the local level. The results were astonishing given that Roma in the three localities were not used to being asked what to do locally to improve their lives and that the pandemic required compliance with rules that community members are not yet accustomed to.

In 2021 we managed to develop our team, to attract young people to our team and to involve them in our projects. Unfortunately, we did not have time to organize training courses for them, but every time we do our best to allocate time for group discussions that will contribute to their motivation and to the improvement of their knowledge.

In conclusion, we would like to thank our beneficiaries, partners and financiers for the trust granted and for the support offered in the process of implementing the activities. We assure you that the Sastipen organization will continue to carry out its activity in accordance with the mission, the assumed values and the assumed strategic vision that has in the foreground the equal access to public health services for all members of the Roma communities in Romania.

SASTIPEN is and will remain a non-governmental organization that promotes social dialogue, participation and community involvement in decision-making structures regarding public health policies of Roma and non-Roma citizens, with the focus on equality of the beneficiaries in health system.

Radu Anuti, president



## Activities planned for 2021

Since the founding and until the present time, the organization has dedicated its efforts especially to the issue of:

- Increasing the degree of Roma access to public health services, by developing Community Centers for Medico-Social Assistance, located in the community, for disadvantaged people, excluded from the health insurances system, with an emphasis on the mother and child;
- Advocacy at national level on the health national program initiated by Ministry of Health for Roma communities, in order to be adapted to real particular health needs of Roma vulnerable communities;
- Developing public policies on Roma health, as well as developing public health strategies and interventions, especially in Roma communities, with the purpose of improving the socio-health status of Roma;
- Implementing advocacy activities which would contribute to adopting by the governmental and intergovernmental bodies of coherent policies meant to improve the health status of vulnerable groups' members;
- Organizing integrated community centers;
- Organizing courses to support the national health mediation program;
- Organizing training for health professionals in areas (discrimination and human rights, addressing vulnerable groups, Roma history and culture etc;

For 2021, the main action directions of Sastipen were:

1. Providing technical assistance, monitoring and evaluation of the medical-social services offered at the local level for increasing the access of Roma vulnerable population to quality medical-social services that will lead to the improvement of the national legislative framework and the strengthening the relationship community - local authority - medical-social staff by developing networks of specialist in the field.
2. Continuous training of specialists and community health care teams.
3. Conducting studies and research to assess the quality of medical-social services at the local level in order to raise the awareness of the health problems / risk factors with which the members of the vulnerable communities with the Roma face, by organizing Information – Education - Awareness campaigns that reduce the risk of illness and prevent them.
4. Awareness of the local authorities on the benefits of applying the legislation in the medical-social field and concluding partnerships in the view of strengthening the institutional capacity of the local authorities to improve the situation of the Roma.
5. Advocacy for improving the public policies addressed to roma population in Health area.
6. Advocacy for the effective implementation of the COVID 19 vaccination campaign among members of Roma communities.

Starting from these directions of action, the main objectives pursued and the main activities implemented were:

**Objective 1: Strengthening the capacity of the Unit for Technical Assistance, Monitoring and Evaluation (UTAME).**

**Objective 2: Developing and implementing an Roma health advocacy campaign in order to improve the Romanian legislative framework on the need for public health programs in Roma communities**

**Objective 3: Developing regional/county/local/community networks composed by experts in medico-social area, who are active in disadvantaged communities, in order to disseminate the lessons learned after the implementation of the medico-social programs, in order to harmonize the policies**

**Objective 4: Developing the competences of the community medical teams in the context of the health reform**

**Objective 5: Realizing researches, studies, surveys in order to improve the quality of primary medical services, emergency services, at pre-hospital, hospital and ambulatory services, as well as evaluating the implementation of national programs for public health.**

**Objective 6: Implementing information, education, awareness campaigns on reproductive health, health risk factors and preventing chronic diseases, awareness campaigns for mothers regarding the health, immunization and understanding the development stages of children, by elaborating a screening program at the level of Roma communities at risk**

**Objective 7: Providing technical assistance to the local NGOs and authorities in order to develop and implement action plans in the benefit of the vulnerable Roma communities.**

**Objective 8: Providing technical assistance in order to strengthen the institutional capacity of the local authorities by integrating the community teams in social services. (Directorate for Public Health, City Hall Councils, Directorate/Department for Social Assistance, Medical dispensaries / family medical cabinets )**

**Objective 9: Implementing an Advocacy Campaign for improving the public policies addressed to roma population in Health area– realizing a public policy recommendation in the field of Roma health.**

**Objective 10: Implementing projects in the benefit of Roma population in the field oh health, community development, empowerment and integrated services.**

**Objective 11: Establishing partnerships with stakeholders and writing financing proposals in accordance with the strategic objectives of the association.**

**Objective 11: Implementation of a health education campaign in order to reduce the risks associated with COVID 19 and advocacy for the effective implementation of the COVID 19 vaccination campaign among members of Roma communities.**

## Activities implemented in 2021

### **Objective 1: Strengthening the capacity of the Unit for Technical Assistance, Monitoring and Evaluation (UTAME).**

In the context of COVID 19, the main activities implemented by Sastipen in 2021 were dedicated to strengthening the capacity of the team of the Unit for Technical Assistance, Monitoring and Evaluation (UTAME) in order to support the health mediators in the process of implementing activities in Roma Communities according with the measures disposed by the authorities against COVID 19 and with the

During the reporting period we have implemented the following activities:

#### **Act.1 - Training of UTAME experts, in order to ensure a permanent collection of information on the functioning of community medical assistance program, providing technical assistance, advocacy, and data collection on the dynamics of the main public health indicators.**

Description: The Unit for Technical Assistance, Monitoring, and Evaluation is functional since June 2014 in partnership with National Institute of Public Health. The main objectives of UATME is to ensure a permanent collection of information on the functioning of community medical assistance program, providing technical assistance, advocacy, and data collection on the dynamics of the main public health indicators.

To ensure a permanent collection of information on the functioning of community medical assistance program, providing technical assistance, advocacy, and data collection on the dynamics of the main public health indicators, during 2021 Sastipen has developed materials for UTAME experts in order to support their activities. All the materials were developed based on the DECISION no. 324 of May 23, 2019 adopted by the Romanian Government .

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

- A UATME working procedure developed by Sastipen based on the DECISION no. 324 of May 23, 2019 adopted by the Romanian Government .

#### **Act. 2 - Revising and implementing the system for collecting data on the obstacles encountered in the functioning of the community medical assistance program, in order to identify the deficiencies of the program and to collect the public health indicators.**

Description:

Taking into consideration the fact that the MoH has organized an working group for developing the operational procedures for implementing the community medical assistance program without the participation of Sastipen and other important stakeholders within civil society, in 2020 Sastipen team has developed an working group responsible for realizing the proposals for the implementation of the methodological norms for the implementation of the community assistance program with the focus on health mediators activities.

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

As part of the working group developed by MoH responsible for developing the operational procedures for implementing

the community medical assistance program and for developing the system for collecting data provided by community medical assistance program, Sastipen has succeeded to develop a tool for collecting data used by Roma health mediators.

#### **Act. 3 - Identifying approaches, methods, and solutions for the identified problems**

Description: In the period of March– December 2020, the UATME experts has continued the work in the field of offering the technical assistance to the health mediators for identifying the obstacles encountered in the functioning of the community medical assistance program. The information provided by the UATME experts was considered an important value in the process of realizing the recommendations for MoH related with the methodological norms for the implementation of the community assistance program with the focus on health mediator's activities

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

- 2 reports prepared by UATME experts related with the obstacles encountered in the functioning of the community medical assistance program

#### **Act. 4 - Mediating the relation within the community – local authorities – medico-social personnel teams at local level and Realizing quarter reports for the community medical assistance program.**

Description: Starting with March 2018, the UATME experts have implemented specific activities in the field of offering technical assistance to the health mediators in the relation with the local authorities and different stakeholders with the main objective to ensure the sustainability of health mediators activities in the benefit of Roma communities. the specific activities have consisted in assistance to the local authorities related with the payment of the salary of health mediators in accord with the new legislation in the field of employment, technical assistance to the health mediators in the partnership relation with the medical staff from local level, empowering health mediators at the local level by organizing local meetings with the participation of the local and county stakeholders.

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

- 208 health mediators have received technical support in order to ensure the sustainability of their work

- 208 individual records made by the UATME experts

- 4 quarter reports for the community medical assistance program realized by UATME experts. The monitoring reports highlight both the challenges faced by health mediators and the challenges faced by community members in the process of accessing public health services in the context of Covid 19.



## Activities implemented in 2021 (2)

An example is the monitoring of the situation of vulnerable communities during the pandemic situation in Romania. The monitoring report made with the support of health mediators supported Sastipen in the process of making recommendations to the National Committee for Emergency Situation in order to support members of Roma communities.

- Based on the methodological norms regarding the organization, functioning and financing of the community health care activity adopted by the Romanian Government by DECISION no. 324, Sastipen completed the guide for health mediators and local authorities in which the entire methodology of operation of this program was explained.

### **Objective 2: Developing and implementing an Roma health advocacy campaign in order to improve the Romanian legislative framework on the need for public health programs in Roma communities**

In order to implement this objective, during the reporting period we have implemented the following activities:

#### **Act. 5 - Realizing monitoring reports (shadow reports) on how to implement the national health programs.**

Description: In the period of July—October 2021, Sastipen has conducted a monitoring report on Roma women's access to health and maternity services in the context of the COVID 19. The report was presented during an online meeting organized with the participation of key decision-makers from the Ministry of Health, the National Agency for Roma, the NGO sector and other stakeholders. Moreover, since December 2021, Sastipen has become part of of Romanian coalition responsible for realizing a monitoring reports on the national strategy for Roma inclusion.

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

- monitoring report on Roma women's access to health and maternity services in the context of the COVID 19.

#### **Act. 6- Organizing debates/public hearing in order to promote non-discrimination in access to health services.**

In the context of developing the new strategic vision for Roma inclusion 2021-2027, in October 2021, Sastipen managed to organize an on line meeting with the participation of Sastipen Network and NAR experts with the aim to analyze the status of the new strategic vision in the field of Roma social inclusion for 2021-2027.

#### **Concrete outcomes:**

- an on line meeting with the participation of Sastipen Network and NAR experts organized and a report regarding the status of the new strategic vision in the field of Roma social inclusion for 2021-2027.

#### **Act. 7 - Creating a platform for debate and civic consulting for developing public policies in health.**

Description: Since March 2019, Sastipen has become a member of the Roma Sounding Board (RSB), a representative group of civil society organizations with specific expertise in the field of social and economic inclusion of Roma. The main role of the RSB is to identify areas for increased Roma policy attention, to provide Roma perspectives and to propose potential solutions to improve development outcomes and strengthen Roma social inclusion. RSB informs and provides advice on the specific challenges of Roma development for the World Bank's involvement in Romania. Emphasis is placed on significant issues related to addressing these challenges, as well as on contributing to the overall stakeholder dialogue. RSB aims, through its advice and activities, to promote equal rights and socio-economic inclusion of Roma - especially Roma women and girls - and to support the full participation of Roma in the political, social and economic development of their communities. Sastipen is part of the group responsible for Roma Health.

As a member of the Rome Sounding Board, Sastipen participated in the consultation process with various decision makers invited by the World Bank to the consultation process with civil society. The representatives of the World Bank welcomed this initiative and promised to add this topic to the agenda of discussions with the Ministry of European Funds. In addition, also within this group, Sastipen proposed the inclusion on the agenda of the line ministries of the issue of Roma inclusion in the process of realization and implementation of the national resilience and recovery plan. Roma Sounding Board is a very efficient discussion platform where Sastipen has the opportunity to present its proposals.

#### **Act. 8 - Creating a forum which would highlight problematic law articles and to improve the existing legislation, thus it could be seen the real impact at community level, by proposals for amending/clarifying them, as well as promoting good practices in the area of community medical assistance.**

Description: Based on the status of member RSB, Sastipen has continued the discussion with the local partners (Sastipen Network) in order to develop the communication which would highlight problematic law articles and to improve the existing legislation, thus it could be seen the real impact at community level, by proposals for amending/clarifying them, as well as promoting good practices in the area of community medical assistance. All the proposals discussed with the local partners were presented in the meetings organized by RSB.

A recommendation in the field of Roma Health Projects were presented during the meetings organized by RSB.

## Activities implemented in 2021 (3)

### **Act. 9 - Strengthening the cooperation and partnerships between the interested social actors in the process of improving the health status of vulnerable population.**

Description: Sastipen tried to strengthening the cooperation and partnerships between the interested social actors in the process of improving the health status of vulnerable population. In this respect, Sastipen has participated to the meetings organized by Interministerial Commission for Roma Social Inclusion and advocated for partnerships between public institution and Roma NGO's in order to implement programs/project addressed to the Roma Communities. All the activities implemented by Sastipen in this field tried to change the mentality of public institutions about the necessity to work in partnership with local stakeholders based on the realities from the field. Based on Sastipen' advocacy work, in the end of October 2021, at la national level , NAR has developed the first Task Force in the field of Roma Health aimed to support the Ministry of Health to implement the national vaccination campaign against COVID 19.

The role of Sastipen in this task force group is to provide technical assistance to community workers ( roma health mediators and community nurse) to implement the NAR' information campaign in the field of immunization against COVID 19.

### **Objective 3: Developing the competences of the community medical teams in the context of the health reform**

#### **Act. 10- Creating the Center for Training and Certifying of the Community Medical Nurse by reformulating the Center for Training and Certifying of Health Mediators.**

Description: Staring with March 2020, Sastipen has started the process of creating an on line Center for Training and Certifying of Health Mediators. Taking into consideration the expertise of Sastipen in the field of health mediators training, based on the results of the meetings organized with the participation of the NTPH, Sastipen has decided to develop the association as a Center for Training and Certifying of Health Mediators. Between July - November 2018, Sastipen has implemented specific activities for accrediting the association as a Center for Training and Certifying of Health Mediators.

**Concrete outcomes:** Sastipen has become a Center for Training and Certifying the Health Mediators, which organizes online courses.

#### **Act. 11 - Organizing continuous professional training courses.**

Aware of the need to continue the process of training health mediators, in 2021, Sastipen managed to organize the first qualification courses in the profession of health mediator, or-

ganized in online format.

Between March and July 2021, Sastipen managed to train and qualify a number of 56 health mediators to work in Roma communities.

### **Objective 4: Providing technical assistance to the local NGOs and authorities in order to implement the county action plans in the benefit of the vulnerable Roma communities in 2015-2025.**

#### **Act. 12 - Providing technical assistance for organizing work groups responsible with implementing the county action plans in the benefit of vulnerable Roma communities**

Description: In the period of 2015-2017, Sastipen has succeeded to change the paradigm of implementing policies in social inclusion domain with the participation of County Council. Taking into consideration this new approach, during January - December 2021, Sastipen has continued to provide technical assistance to the local Roma NGO's at the local level for organizing work groups responsible with implementing the county action plans in the benefit of vulnerable Roma communities for 2015-2025.

Moreover, based on this experience, in 2021 has developed a new partnership with the local NGO's from Tulcea and Constanta counties. In the end of 2021, Sastipen has succeeded to put on the public agenda al the county level the necessity to develop and adopt action plans for Roma, an idea accepted by the local and county authorities from Tulcea and Constanta.

#### **Act. 13 - Implementing a training program for the members of work groups regarding the intervention of integrated actions in order to fulfill the measures foreseen in the county action plans in the benefit of vulnerable Roma communities**

Description: Given the need to train members of civil society in Constanta and Tulcea to become reliable partners of county authorities in the process of developing county action plans, in 2021 Sastipen organized a complex training module for members of local NGOs , respectively:

- March 15-18, 2021 - Module 1 - Communication and Advocacy, 20 participants, APRPE Constanta Headquarters.
- June 23-28, 2021 - Module 2 - Public Policies for Roma and relations with local authorities, 20 participants, APRPE Tulcea Headquarters.
- September 27-30, 2021 - Module 3 - Methods and techniques of data collection - Realization of local action plans, 20 participants, APRPE Constanta Headquarters.
- November 28-30, 2021 - Module 4 - Advocacy methods and support for action plans, 20 participants, APRPE Tulcea Headquarters.

## Activities implemented in 2021 (4)

Concrete outcomes:

- A training program for the members of work groups and local NGO's implemented by Sastipen team
- 2 project proposals were submitted to EEA and Norway Grants and received a positive answer.

**Objective 5: Realizing researches, studies, surveys in order to improve the quality of primary medical services, emergency services, at pre-hospital, hospital and ambulatory services.**

In order to implement this objective, during the reporting period we have implemented the following activities:

**Act. 14- Conducting a report regarding "Roma women's access to maternity services and reproductive health"**

Description: The research was carried out within the project "DajPhen - Solidarity Networks for Roma Women" implemented by Sastipen in partnership with E-Romnja - Association for the Promotion of Women's Rights in Rome. The general objective of the project is to "support and strengthen the capacity of Roma women, adolescents and adolescents of Roma ethnicity who face multiple and intersectional discrimination (ethnic, gender, economic, age, etc.) in the Roma communities in Valea Seacă, Mizil and Giurgiu to rely on an alternative community support system. At the same time, one of the objectives of the project is to increase access to reproductive health and maternity services in order to increase social inclusion.

One of the important conclusions of the research program is that we find that women's access to medical services is conditioned by the quality of health insurance, the physical distance between the community and health care providers, the type of community (rural or urban) and the opportunities offered. public or private health care providers locally or in the neighborhood, national public health programs, community health care programs, discriminatory practices that limit access to services, and especially the existence of individual medical practices in which physicians work. family dedicated to community issues.

**Concrete outcomes**

A research report with possible recommendations and possible solutions to increase the access of Roma women to health services, maternity services and reproductive health.

**Objective 7: Developing regional/county/local/community networks composed by experts in medico-social area.**

**Act. 15- Elaborating a methodology for evaluating the medico-social programs implemented by the community teams in the intervention areas of Sastipen.**

Description: During 2010-2020, Sastipen has developed 42 community centers with the focus of providing medical services to the vulnerable population. Based on this experience, in 2018 Sastipen has become a partner of Ministry of Labor and Social Justice in the process of developing the concept of community center for vulnerable population which will be developed in 139 local communities with the support of Ministry of European Funds. During the period of February—June 2021 Sastipen implemented the methodology for evaluating the medico-social programs and the lesson learned were discussed with the representative of Ministry of Labor and Social Justice.

**Objective 8: Implementing information, education, awareness campaigns on reproductive health, health risk factors and preventing chronic diseases, awareness campaigns for mothers regarding the health, immunization and understanding the development stages of children, by elaborating a screening program at the level of Roma communities at risk.**

**Act. 16— Implementing projects in partnership with Mother and Child Protection Institute and Fundeni Hospital**

Description: Since November 2020, Sastipen has become the partner of Mother and Child Protection Institute and Fundeni Hospital in a multiannual project with the aim to implement two important health campaigns in the field of uterine cervical cancer and colorectal cancer. The project was approved by the donor (European Structural Funds) in November 2020 and its started the implementation in December 2020.

In 2021, Sastipen has implemented a series of information and mobilization activities for beneficiaries of project activities focusing on vulnerable communities in rural areas.

**Act. 17— Implementation of information activities for community members on the national COVID 19' immunization campaign.**

Description: Given the high rate of COVID 19 infection among members of Roma communities, in 2021 Sastipen supported the initiative of the Ministry of Health to inform community members about the COVID 19 vaccination campaign and took steps to support the community to benefit from national vaccination program. Thus, in the localities where Sastipen works, through the community workers, information was distributed to the community members regarding the vaccination campaign. In addition, based on collaboration protocols, Sastipen supported local authorities in setting up temporary COVID 19 vaccination points. At Sastipen's integrated community service centers, the teams briefed community members and facilitated dialogue between community members and the medical staff responsible for implementing the vaccination campaign.

## Other important results achieved in 2021

As a result of the implementation of strategic vision, Sastipen has managed in 2021 to keep its "watch-dog" capacity on the implementation of public policies for the Roma in the health field. Having in mind the objectives proposed in our strategic vision for 2021, Sastipen has succeeded to achieve very good results such as:

- Sastipen has succeeded to ensure a permanent collection of information on the functioning of community medical assistance program, providing technical assistance, advocacy, and data collection on the dynamics of the main public health indicators.
- Sastipen has succeeded to continue the work implemented by the working group managed by MoH responsible for developing the operational procedures for implementing the community medical assistance program and for developing the system for collecting data provided by community medical assistance program.
- Sastipen has continued to provide technical support to the health mediators and in the same time to advocate for sustainability of this activity in the benefit of Roma communities.
- Sastipen has continued to be a key player at the national level responsible for developing public recommendation in health in the benefit of Roma population.
- Sastipen has continued to be a key partner at the local level responsible for developing public recommendations addressed to the County Councils about the necessity to include health as a priority in the county/local action plans addressed to the Roma social inclusion
- Sastipen succeeded to continue the training process for health mediators using an on line platform for training.
- Sastipen has succeeded to continue the technical assistance work for local NGO's to become a real partner for local authorities in the process of implementing initiatives in the benefit of Roma communities, especially in the health area.
- Sastipen has succeeded to continue the process of developing the research area in the field of Roma Health by developing tools for collecting data on the health status and satisfaction level of the community members regarding the implementation of the national programs for public health.
- Sastipen has succeeded to establish new partnership with NGO's for developing new proposal related with the aim of the organization;
- Sastipen has succeeded to write new financing proposals based on the mission of the organization.
- Sastipen has participated to different working meetings, conferences and seminars for the exchange of experience with other institutions and organizations working in the field of Roma inclusion.
- Sastipen has succeeded to maintain and to develop new Community Centers for Medico-Social Assistance, located in the community, for disadvantaged people, excluded from the health insurances system.
- Sastipen has succeeded to advocate at national level on the health national program initiated by Ministry of Health for Roma communities, in order to be adapted to real particular health needs of Roma vulnerable communities;
- Another success of Sastipen during the implementation of the project is the fact that the team has strengthened, reanalyzed its strategic vision and adapted it to new health challenges, attracted financial resources from European grants became increasingly visible in public space and strengthened its partnerships at local and national level.
- Sastipen has continued to monitor the situation of the communities in which it operates and took all steps to ensure that the Roma benefit equally from the programs implemented by local authorities in the field of COVID prevention 19.
- In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic situation, Sastipen has managed to be active in the process of monitoring the situation in Roma communities and to be a very active partner in the relation with National Agency for Roma in the process of identifying the critical situation and proposing the solutions.
- Sastipen has succeeded to strengthen the relationship with other stakeholders ( World Health Organization, World Bank and EUPHA ) in order to advocate for roma rights in health area and to improve de access of roma population to the health services in the pandemic situation.

For the next period, Sastipen will continue to follow the strategy and to implement activities, trying to become more active in the advocacy process for changing the mentality of the decision makers relates with the necessity of improving the Roma population health status.



**PROGRAMUL OPERATIONAL CAPITAL UMAN**

Axa prioritară 4: Incluziunea socială și combaterea sărăciei

Obiectivul tematic 9: Promovarea incluziunii sociale, combaterea sărăciei și a oricărei forme de discriminare

Prioritatea de investiții 9.4: Creșterea accesului la servicii accesibile, durabile și de înaltă calitate, inclusiv asistență medicală și servicii sociale de interes general

Obiectiv specific 4.9.: Creșterea numărului de persoane care beneficiază de programe de sănătate și de servicii orientate către prevenție, depistare precoce (screening), diagnostic și tratament precoce pentru principalele patologii

Titlul proiectului: „Screening pentru Cancerul de Col Uterin și tratament precoce - SCCUT” Contract nr. POCU/759/4/9/136812

## Project title: Screening for Cervical Cancer and Early Treatment - SCCUT - ID 136812

Project implementation region: South Muntenia Region, Arges, Prahova, Dambovită, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Calarasi and Teleorman counties.

Implementation period: 36 months, starting with August 2020.

Partnership leader: "ALESSANDRESCU-RUDESCU" NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR MOTHER AND CHILD HEALTH BUCHAREST

Partner 1 - ASSOCIATION "CURRICULAR DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER STUDIES CENTER: BRANCH"

Partner 2 - "RENAISSANCE FOR EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CULTURE" FOUNDATION

Partner 3 - ROMA CENTER FOR HEALTH POLICIES - SASTIPEN

The general aim / objective of the project: Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any form of discrimination, by increasing access to accessible, sustainable and high quality services, including health care and social services of general interest, by organizing health programs and services aimed at prevention, early detection (screening) diagnosis and early treatment of cervical cancer for 170,001 women in the South-Muntenia region, of which at least 50% belong to vulnerable groups.

### Specific objectives of the project

OS.1. Improving the health of the population by carrying out a complex program of prevention, early detection (screening), diagnosis and early treatment of cervical cancer for 170,001 people in the South-Muntenia region, located in all 7 counties, identified in the project, coming mainly from vulnerable groups, sending 3600 people to the specialist, as well as providing support services for 3000 people diagnosed in the screening process.

2. OS.2. Awareness and promotion of the need to carry out the complex program of prevention, early detection (screening), diagnosis and early treatment of cervical cancer for 170,001 people in the South-Muntenia region, located in all 7 counties, by carrying out information, education and specific awareness.

3. OS.3. Creating a concrete system for ensuring the protection of personal data in accordance with the legal provisions in force and taking all necessary measures for their processing in optimal security conditions, during the project.

4. OS.4. Promoting social inclusion, combating poverty and any form of discrimination, with the priority of increasing access to sustainable and high quality services, through the use of methods and tools of social innovation, as well as through the implementation of a cervical cancer screening program, at regional level, non-discriminatory and adapted to the target group for 170,001 people.

Target group: 170,001 women between the ages of 24 and 64, including people from vulnerable groups who will benefit from the services provided by regional programs for the prevention, early detection, diagnosis and treatment of precancerous lesions of the cervix.

### Activities P3 - SASTIPEN

A1.2 Activities for identifying the target group and providing support for 170,001 people from the 7 counties of the South-Muntenia region (Arges, Calarasi, Dambovită, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Prahova, Teleorman)

Sub-activity A1.2 Activities for identifying the target group and providing support for 170,001 people from the 7 counties of the South Muntenia region (Arges, Calarasi, Dambovită, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Prahova, Teleorman).

Sub-activity A1.7 Support 3,000 people in the target group of the project, especially those diagnosed in the screening program in order to determine the effectiveness of the measures taken and adjust them as needed.

Sub-activity A2.1 Information, education, awareness activities of a minimum number of 170,001 persons representing the target group of cervical cancer screening services in the South-Muntenia region (Arges, Calarasi, Dambovită, Ialomița, Giurgiu, Prahova, Teleorman) .

Indicator	Value
Number of information and mobilization campaigns implemented	61 campaigns
Number of people informed	15500 persoane
Number of people mobilized during screening campaigns	3552 pers
Number of protocols signed with authorities	61 protocols
Involvement of health mediators in information and mobilization campaigns	37 RHM
Number of community teams involved in community level activities.	55 teams
Number of local NGOs involved in community outreach and advocacy activities	12 NGO's



#### PROGRAMUL OPERAȚIONAL CAPITAL UMAN

##### Axa prioritară 4: Incluziunea socială și combaterea sărăciei,

Obiectivul tematic 9: Promovarea incluziunii sociale, combaterea sărăciei și a oricărei forme de discriminare

Prioritatea de investiții 9.iv: Creșterea accesului la servicii accesibile, durabile și de înaltă calitate, inclusiv asistența medicală și servicii sociale de interes general;

Obiectiv specific 4.9.: Creșterea numărului de persoane care beneficiază de programe de sănătate și de servicii orientate către prevenție, depistare precoce (screening), diagnostic și tratament precoce pentru principalele patologii

Titlul proiectului: „Furnizarea serviciilor de sănătate din programele de prevenție, depistare precoce, diagnostic și tratament precoce al leziunilor precanceroase colorectale - ROCCAS II - Sud-Muntenia”

Contract de finanțare nr. POCU/756/4/9/136828/05.11.2020

Investim în dezvoltare durabilă!

### „Provision of health services from the programs of prevention, early detection, diagnosis and early treatment of precancerous colorectal lesions - ROCCAS II South-Muntenia” - ID136828

**Project implementation region: South Muntenia Region, Arges, Prahova, Dambovită, Giurgiu, Ialomița, Călărași and Teleorman counties.**

**Implementation period: 36 months, starting with November 2020.**

**Applicant: Fundeni Clinical Institute**

**Partner 1: "Renaissance for Education, Health and Culture" Foundation**

**Partner 2: Roma Center for Health Policies SASTIPEN**

The general objective of the project is to promote social inclusion, combat poverty and any form of discrimination, by increasing access to sustainable and high quality services, including health care and social services of general interest, by organizing health programs and services aimed at prevention, early detection (screening), diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer for 50,001 people in the South-Muntenia region, of which at least 59% belong to vulnerable groups.

This will be achieved through the main activities of the project, namely:

Activities of identification, information, mobilization and support through local awareness campaigns and events organized with family doctors, local authorities in the field, representatives of civil society and the population of the target group, namely 50,001 people from the South-Muntenia region, counties Dambovită, Teleorman, Giurgiu, Călărași, Ialomița, Prahova and Arges;

Conducting screening to identify people at standard colorectal cancer risk;

Performing lower digestive endoscopy (colonoscopy) control in patients tested positive for occult hemorrhage or for those identified as having an increased risk of colorectal cancer due to history;

Support for the establishment and operation of the center for the prevention and early detection, diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer in the same region, mentioned above.

Collection and processing of data obtained from screening by specific statistical methods.

Specific objectives:

The first specific objective is the awareness and promotion of the need to carry out the complex program of prevention, early detection (screening), diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer for 50,001 people in the South-Muntenia region, by carrying out specific information, education and awareness activities. intended for target groups and the general public, at individual, group and community level, given that access to services depends on the addressability of the population and the degree of awareness of their own health needs and rights to health services.

Another specific objective of the project is to improve the health of the population by carrying out a complex program of prevention, early detection, diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer for 50,001 people in the South-Muntenia region, identified in the project, especially from vulnerable groups, sending 2104 people to the specialist, by providing services and means of support to increase access to medical services and treatment, by periodically re-evaluating patients and preparing reports, studies and public policy proposals based on data obtained in following the screening.

The third specific object of the project is to ensure the functionality of a center for prevention, early detection, diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer within the Fundeni Clinical Institute in order to constantly detect colorectal precancerous lesions, including after the intervention. Another specific objective, the fourth, is to create a concrete system for ensuring the protection of personal data in accordance with the legal provisions in force and to take all necessary measures for their processing in optimal security conditions, during the project.

The final specific objective is to promote social inclusion, combat poverty and any form of discrimination, with the priority of increasing access to sustainable and high quality services, through the use of social innovation methods and tools, as well as through a screening program. colorectal cancer, at regional level, non-discriminatory and adapted to the target group for 50,001 people, respectively facilitating access to specialized services and treatment for 2104 people, in which methods and tools of social innovation will be used and the principles of non-discrimination and equality will be promoted. chances and sustainable development in carrying out the interventions.

The expected results are the realization of information campaigns, education, awareness of the target group; a number of 50,001 people, representing the target group, identified and mobilized for screening; 2104 people from the target group with reference to the specialist, with as many endoscopes performed; Establishment of a center for prevention, early detection, diagnosis and early treatment of colorectal cancer established and operated within the Fundeni Institute, a report of support measures for conducting screening programs at the regional level to detect precancerous colorectal lesions.



Indicator	Value
Number of information and mobilization campaigns implemented	5 campaigns
Number of people informed	1200 pers
Number of people mobilized during screening campaigns	0
Number of protocols signed with authorities	14 protocols
Involvement of health mediators in information and mobilization cam-	12 RHM
Number of community teams involved in community level activities.	14 teams
Number of local NGOs involved in community outreach and advocacy activities	12 NGO's

## Project: "CCSI - Model of intervention in the process of Roma inclusion and empowerment", project code PN1008

Program funded by the EEA and Norwegian Grants 2014-2021 "INCREASING ROMA INCLUSION AND ENABILITY" Thematic Allocation A - Service Delivery Projects

Project promoter: Sastipen-Roma Center for Health Policies

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The CCSI project - Model of intervention in the process of Roma inclusion and empowerment aims to increase the inclusion and empowerment of the Roma population in three localities: Polovragi (Gorj County), Ciucurova (Tulcea County) and Hamcearca (Tulcea County).

The objectives of the project are: providing integrated services to a minimum of 900 beneficiaries, through 3 community integrated service centers; implementation of a local Roma empowerment program for a minimum number of 450 people; and the implementation of a program to combat discrimination and promote intercultural dialogue, addressed to a minimum number of 900 people. Through its long-term activities, the program will significantly contribute to reducing economic and social disparities among the local population as well as empowering Roma to participate actively in the decision-making process.

Through the services provided within the community resource centers and through the activities of Roma empowerment and the implementation of activities in the field of combating discrimination and promoting intercultural dialogue, the project proposal respects and recognizes the core values of the EU and is an integral part of general policies, especially in the fields of education, health, employment, social affairs, anti-discrimination housing and anti-gypsyism.

The activities of the project target especially the Roma as a target group but do not exclude other people living in similar economic conditions, considered vulnerable people. The intercultural approach is a key element in the implementation of the project considering the existing intercultural environment at the level of the communities selected in the project so that the promotion of mutual understanding will contribute to combating prejudices on both sides.

Through the proposed intervention model, the project will generate a positive long-term change, thus contributing to the promotion of social inclusion, combating poverty and any form of discrimination as well as increasing Roma access to quality integrated services and increasing the quality of these services.

At the same time, the project activities aim at the mainstreaming approach, respectively the integration of the Roma in the society's activities and the avoidance of measures that risk deepening segregation or creating new forms of segregation and will actively support desegregation measures.

The project is funded by the EEA and Norwegian Grants 2014-2021 "INCREASING ROMA INCLUSION AND ENABILITY" - Thematic allocation A - Service delivery projects, managed by the Romanian Social Development Fund and implemented by a consortium of Sastipen-Roma Roma Center Health (PP), Institute for Public Policies (P1), Polovragi Commune City Hall (P2), Hamcearca Commune City Hall (P3) and Ciucurova Commune City Hall (P4).

RESULTS OBTAINED BY CCSI TEAMS	CIUCUROVA	HAMCEARCA	POLOVRAGI
Number of people informed about CCSI services	353 pers	246 pers	342 pers
Number of people registered — identification of medical and social problems	140 pers	110 pers	236 pers
Number of people registered in GT — CCSI integrated services	120 pers	85 pers	112 pers
Number of children at risk of dropping out of school identified	25 childrens	12 childrens	21 childrens
Number of beneficiaries who received primary health care within CCSI	82 pers	65 pers	75 pers
Number of beneficiaries assisted in the process of obtaining identity documents	14 pers	2 pers	12 pers
Number of people who received legal assistance to clarify the housing situation	8 pers	2 pers	6 pers
Number of unemployed people identified — planning an intervention / assistance plan	34 pers	45 pers	52 pers
Number of people participating in IEC campaigns implemented by the AMC team	82 pers	68 pers	108 pers
Number of young Roma identified to participate in the complex training program	20 pers	20 pers	20 pers
Number of Roma identified and involved in the formation of the Local Initiative Group	25 pers	18 pers	23 pers
Number of Roma women identified and involved in the activities of the Roma Mothers and Young Women Club	57 pers	43 pers	52 pers
Number of completed questionnaires — baseline setting — level of Roma acceptance	147	89	171
Number of people who benefited from integrated services — ongoing activity	63 pers	56 pers	65 pers





## Roma Empowerment and Empowerment through Lobby and Action

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

The “Roma Empowerment through Lobby and Action” project, funded with the financial support of Active Citizens Fund Romania, aims to increase the capacity of vulnerable groups in 12 interethnic rural communities in the counties of Călărași, Brăila and Constanța. The project is carried out by the Community Development Agency Foundation Together in partnership with the Roma Center for Health Policies - SASTIPEN and the Association Center for Education and Human Rights - ACEDO. The project benefits from a funding amounting to 223,964 euros, through the Active Citizens Fund Romania program, financed by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway through the EEA Grants 2014-2021.

The main issue addressed is the low involvement of citizens in the life of the communities they belong to and in decision-making. The project has a bottom-up approach that emphasizes the use of existing resources at the local level and the formation of active voices at the community level able to put the needs of disadvantaged groups on the agenda of local authorities. Thus, community facilitation activities will be carried out in 12 rural interethnic communities materialized in 12 local representation groups formed and mobilized, and subse-

quently formalized in NGOs; 120 members of vulnerable groups will have increased skills to respond to the challenges of human rights issues, self-esteem, relations with local authorities; 24 Roma experts and leaders participate in a comprehensive training program for Roma leaders to help them become agents of change at the local and regional levels, 12 advocacy campaigns will be conducted, and 660 people will be mobilized to get involved in community life.

Within this project, Sastipen is responsible for the development and implementation of activities in 4 rural localities in Constanta County, respectively Valu lui Traian, Galita village (Ostrov), Mircea Voda and Cuza Voda.

### The expected results of the project include:

- Empowerment of 12 Roma communities from 3 counties (Brăila, Călărași and Constanța) through community facilitation and development;
- Training of 24 Roma experts and leaders at the national level to increase their involvement in decision-making targeting Roma communities and beyond;
- Teacher training activities in Roma history.

RESULTS OBTAINED IN THE PROJECT DECEMBER 2021	Valu lui Traian	Galita ( Ostrov)	Mircea Voda	Cuza Voda
Roma Communities involved in the project	1	1	1	1
Roma people involved in the local initiative group	18	14	21	22
Number of questionnaires applied locally to identify community needs	21	23	24	26
Number of meetings organized by the community facilitator with the participation of GIL members	5	6	7	7
Number of meetings organized with the participation of local authorities	2	3	4	3
Number of participants in training sessions ( informal	3	3	2	4





## Dajphen. Solidarity networks for Roma women - RO 2020 / ACF\_A7\_MM\_21

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

DajPhen is a project implemented by the E-Romnja Association in partnership with Sastipen that addresses in an integrated way the motherhood of Roma women as a process, from the decision to have a pregnancy to support services both in the health system and in the community. In Romania, discussions about motherhood are defined from the perspective of white, educated, middle-class women, and this creates a type of representation that defines the idea of being a mother. Roma women as well as poor women, women from rural areas or women from other minority groups are often marginalized because the "constructed portrait" does not overlap with their existence based on daily survival.

Our project starts from these aspects and addresses the birth as a process starting with the decision to become a mother, support networks for Roma girls / women during pregnancy, access to health services, treatment and ultrasounds during pregnancy, birth and breastfeeding, treatment in hospital during pregnancy as well as postpartum support. The main beneficiaries of this project will be Roma girls / women, considering that in Romania the problems they face are related both to the patriarchal system in the community and

to the access to reproductive health services. So the project as it is built wants to start from the bottom up, involving both teenagers, parents and community members as well as local, county, national, social media, service providers and the general public to change the perspective on at birth. Starting from the community means that have the capacity of Roma women to create their own narrative and up to access to public services, the added value of the project consists in the partnership created with Sastipen which ensures dialogue with public institutions and advocacy actions to improve policies in health sector.

The aim of the project is to increase the capacity and empowerment of vulnerable groups (Roma women, Roma adolescents / adolescents) who face multiple discriminations (ethnic, gender, economic, age and sexual orientation) in the Roma communities of Valea Seaca, Mizil and Giurgiu to access reproductive health and maternity services to increase social inclusion.

An expected result of the project is the need to change the mentality of socio-medical workers regarding the need for Roma women to access services based on the principle of equal opportunities and non-discrimination.

In order to contribute to the achievement of the general object, within the activity A4 - Advocacy activities for the increase of maternity services among the Roma communities, sub-activity A.4.3. Documenting and mapping the existing infrastructure in the three communities and at county level and the access of women in the community to it, the implementers set out to make a documentation that highlights the types of services (public and private) offered in Bacau, Prahova counties and Giurgiu as well as formal and information barriers affecting Roma women's access to maternity services and reproductive health.

Starting from the general objective of the project, by filtering the theoretical information collected through the literature and combining both quantitative and qualitative methods, in the period October - December 2021, Sastipen made a research report that will highlight the formal barriers and informal issues affecting Roma and young Roma access to maternity and reproductive health services.

#### **The main conclusions regarding the access of Roma women and young people to public health services, maternity services and reproductive health:**

Poverty and social exclusion affect the health indicators of Roma women, which are significantly weaker than those of the majority population. Poor living conditions of Roma women at risk of social exclusion in Romania often lead to poor nutrition, vitamin deficiencies, malnutrition, anemia, dystonia and rickets. These conditions affect Roma women on a disproportionately large scale compared to the majority population.

Regarding the ECHI indicators that measure the health status of a population, we find that there is a very big difference in terms of life expectancy, infant mortality rate, birth rate, general mortality rate and maternal mortality rate, which indicates that women Roma in Romania are much more vulnerable than the rest of the European population.

However, the most important barrier affecting women's and young people's access to medical services is the discriminatory practices used by medical staff. An example of discrimination is the segregation of patients in hospital units on ethnic grounds, a phenomenon that has begun to spread in Romania. NGOs working in the field mention that it is very difficult to identify such cases and bring them to the attention of the competent authorities in order to be sanctioned.

#### **Recommendations and possible solutions to increase the access of Roma women to health services, maternity services and reproductive health**

Based on these conclusions and taking into account the need to increase the access of Roma women from vulnerable communities to public health services, maternity services and reproductive health services, the need arose for public policy makers in the field of health at the central, county and to make documents / plans / programs based on the real needs of local communities and adapted to the specifics of urban or rural communities.

The National Health Insurance House needs to develop a compensation system for family doctors working in vulnerable communities, thus contributing to the development of a network of family doctors interested in delivering medical services to this segment of the population. In order to reduce the discrimination and training of medical staff with notions of anti-discrimination legislation, the managers of the hospital units, the College of Physicians and the County DSP must organize training sessions for doctors and medical and auxiliary staff within the hospitals.

The community health care program needs to be strengthened in terms of continuing training sessions for health mediators to meet the needs of women in the community.

Civil society needs to develop a system for monitoring Roma women's access to health services and to develop training programs for women on patient rights and obligations and anti-discrimination legislation so that they are treated differently to know who they are. procedures for lodging complaints with discriminatory bodies.

### Webinar - After 20 years of health mediation

The meeting organized by Sastipen on April 8, 2021 aimed to analyze the capacity of community health care teams to get involved in the process of eradicating COVID 19 and the need to strengthen the community health care network. The meeting was attended by representatives of the National Agency for Roma, the Ministry of Health, health mediators, community nurses, representatives of Roma communities and representatives of NGOs.



### "Increasing and improving access to medical services for Roma women" - public debate

The event was organized on September 22, 2021 in Ploiești and we aimed to make heard the experiences of Roma women and put together on the local agenda their problems in accessing maternal and reproductive health services. The event was organized within the 'DajPhen - Solidarity Networks for Roma Women' project, implemented by E-Romnja - The Association for Promoting Roma Women's Rights in partnership with The Roma Center for Health Policies - SASTIPEN.



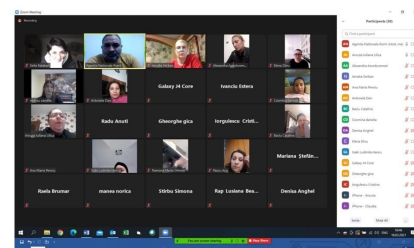
### Webinar - Meeting with health mediators - The role of Roma women in the community mobilization process.

The meeting organized by Sastipen on March 8, 2021 aimed to discuss about the role of Roma women in the community mobilization process, the history of health mediators program and the role of Roma NGO's to empower Roma women to participate in the process of taking decisions. The meeting was attended by representatives of the National Agency for Roma, health mediators, Romani Woman Association, representatives of Roma communities and representatives of NGOs.



### Qualification course for health mediators

Between March and July 2021, Sastipen organized for the first time the first qualification course for health mediators in online format. The course was conducted with the participation of 53 Roma women and enjoyed the support of local NGOs in the process of carrying out practical activities. At the end of the training sessions, all the participants obtained the qualification diploma in the profession of health mediator according to the legal norms in force.



### Launch activities Community Integrated Services Centers

Between June 8-12, 2021, Sastipen launched three community integrated service centers, namely CCSI Polovragi, CCSI Hamcearca and CCSI Ciucurova. The activity took place within the project "CCSI - Model of intervention in the process of Roma inclusion and empowerment" financed by the EEA Grants in the Local Development Program.

Representatives of local authorities, community priests, teachers, local councilors, county councilors, community members, formal and informal leaders and other stakeholders took part in the launch events.



### Local debates - Cervical cancer and the importance of regular medical check-ups.

Between February and August 2021, the Sastipan team participated in a series of local debates organized by the Institute for Mother and Child Care as part of the "Screening for Cervical Cancer and Early Treatment (SCCUT)" project. The meetings were attended by representatives of local and county authorities, specialists, representatives of the Public Health Directorates, family doctors, health mediators and community nurses, women from vulnerable communities and other stakeholders.



## FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR 2021

Revenue and expenses recorded at 31.12.2021	
Source of income	Value- RON
Resources from the state budget	350.466,00
Grant funds	3.679.136,76
Revenue from donations	11.660,00
Other operating revenues	6.000,00
Financial income	35.122,33
Revenues from services	59.645,00
	<b>4.142.030,09 RON</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>(947.681,17 USD)</b>
Expenditure category	Value - RON
Salaries	3.203.920,00
Insurance, social protection and other taxes and payments assimilated to salaries	98.332,75
Services provided by third parties	207.061,93
Travel expenses	110.318,13
Advertisement and publicity	9.920,68
Expenditures on inventory materials and objects	116.096,04
Depreciation and provisions	61.239,01
Financial expenditures	6.034,85
Other operating expenses	105.057,63
Donations	2.000,00
	<b>3.919.981,02 RON</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>(896.877,16 USD)</b>

The expenses for all transactions were accurately recorded in the accounting system of the association and of the projects in progress, the expenses are supported by appropriate evidence and documents (invoices, minutes of receipt, reports, payment orders, account statements, entry notes, vouchers, statements of wages, punctures, receipts, payment and collection orders, etc.).

The association keeps the accounting records of the projects separate from its accounting, and at the end of each accounting month it integrates the project balances in the institution's accounting, using distinct analytics for projects identified by the project code, so that the activities carried out within the projects are easily identifiable in the total activity of the association.

During the year 2021, the association had 56 employees, of whom 8 were employed full-time for an indefinite period and 48 persons were employed part time.

Each of the funds we receive means a special responsibility for us. We know that anyone who grants a grant, makes a donation, redirects 2% or sponsors, wants their amounts to be reflected in real profits for the community, for the beneficiaries. Within the SASTIPEN Association we make every effort to bring this money to a greater value and to produce a lasting positive change.

For donations or 2% redirection please use the account

RO74RZBR000060009878802 Raiffesen Bank.

## The main directions of action of Sastipen in the period 2020-2024

Taking into consideration the previous experience of Sastipen and the new challenges at national level given both the situation of COVID 19 and the new strategy for Roma inclusion developed by the Romanian Government for the period 2021-2027, in the next period our organization will focus on the following directions action:

- Strengthening the network of health mediators and improving the legal framework regulating the rules for the operation of the community health mediation program, funded by the Ministry of Health and administered through local government.
- Developing local health care services delivered to vulnerable community members based on the principle of integrated approach and focused on the needs of the individual ( community medical and social assistance centers).
- Preventing and combating discrimination cases and promoting the principles of non-discrimination in health among staff of health facilities and among vulnerable Roma communities' members - including monitoring the process of implementation of anti-discrimination measures in the field of health ordered by national legislation.
- Conducting researches, studies, surveys to identify the problems faced by vulnerable populations in the process of accessing the health services provided by the state, including health indicators, Covid 19 and the access of Roma population to national preventive and curative health services and programs.
- Developing and implementing advocacy campaigns at local and national level, to contribute to the development of public policies for the benefit of vulnerable communities, with a focus on improving the health of vulnerable population Roma
- Training for medical practitioners and other human resources active in the benefit of Roma communities (health mediators, medical community nurses, NGO workers, facilitators and community workers) in the field of advocacy and non-discrimination.

- Development and implementation of health education campaigns in Roma communities, with a focus on the prevention of communicable diseases, including COVID 19.

- Advocacy for developing the infrastructure at the local level and the programs addressed to the Roma communities according with the measures disposed by the romanian authorities in the context of Covid 19.

- Providing technical assistance to the local NGOs (Sastipen network) in order to become a real partner for local authorities in the context of new strategy for Roma inclusion 2021-2027.

- Developing a monitoring system to monitor the satisfaction of the beneficiaries regarding the services received and to lead to the improvement of the quality standards offered by the health service providers at community level.

Considering the negative impact of COVID 19 in the poor Roma communities in Romania, in the next period Sastipen will develop a fundraising program necessary to purchase sanitary materials for body hygiene and living space hygiene that will be distributed in Roma communities, materials required for protection against COVID 19.

Maintains daily communication with stakeholders on communication and social media channels (e-groups, Facekook, Intagram, Youtube, etc.).

Produces press releases and distributes media and other communication channels.

Participates in national / regional / local radio and TV shows and promotes Sastipen activity.

Moreover, in order to advocate for equitable health service provision and to strengthening the watchdog capacity, Sastipen will develop partnership relations with different stakeholders (NGO's, networks, academics, inter-governmental bodies, etc) both form national and international level.



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