



A.S.V.I ODV

Associazione di Solidarietà e Volontariato Insieme

A.S.V.I. ODV: Associazione di Solidarietà e Volontariato Insieme Onlus, registered either in Italy (Volunteer Associations' Regional Register 8 Mi – n° 7677/2001) and in Kosovo since 01.08.2002 under U.N.M.I.K. Law 1999/22 n°5300384-2 and under the Law no. 03/L-134 Section 9 and 17 n° 5300384-2 of the Kosovo Non- Governmental Association Register. ASVI members have been active for years in the former Yugoslavia and in Kosovo immediately after the end of the war, August 1999.

WHERE WE ARE ACTIVE: Primarily in Kosovo, Republic auto-proclaimed independent on 17 February 2008, and mainly in Mitrovica. The town, situated in the Northern part, is crossed by the Ibar river which separates it in two sectors connected by two bridges which have become the symbol of hatred and division between the two greater ethnic groups. This situation has been again kept under control by the presence of foreign military forces.

OUR GOALS: to carry out a number of projects directed to individuals and communities of all the ethnic groups, mainly fostering initiatives to the advantage of families, education, health, work and social issues.

ACTIVITIES: the direct, personal and free action of the members and a permanent presence in the reality in which Asvi is working by acting with clear and common purposes, a transparent management of all initiatives, funds and materials collected and delivered, the involvement of helped people in the fulfilment and management of the various activities, the sharing of the rules and the spirit of belonging to the association.

DURATION OF THE PROJECT: the Project is active since 1999 and reconfirmed on a yearly basis, after evaluation of its validity and effectiveness.

FUNDS: contributions of private supporters and A.S.V.I. members; funds rising initiatives.

CO-OPERATION: ASVI collaborates with other associations and welcomes any people or institutions willing to operate in the spirit of the project, sharing goals and mode of intervention without any political, religious or ethnic distinction between those who provide assistance and those who receive it.

Summary of A.S.V.I. Projects – Updated September 2020

The inalienable principles ruling our Projects are: Equal dignity between subjects providing assistance and those being assisted – Fostering the peace and the cohabitation between peoples - Awareness of being part of a group of different ethnicities but all with the aim of seeking reciprocal dialogue and coexistence - Direct control on distribution of supplies and management of the projects guaranteeing a transparent management of all collected funds and materials.

TOGETHER IN MITROVICA: our whole activity hinges upon this project. ASVI together with a number of supporters offers material, moral, psychological and medical assistance and whatever could be useful to the support of the weakest part of the population which again feel the effect of consequences of the war and the resulting poverty. Our policy is to plan, carry out and achieve every project under our direct control, in order to personally guarantee the successful conclusion of each initiative, implementing the principle of the mutual solidarity among different ethnic groups living in Kosovo and therefore supporting Serbian, Albanian, Rom, Bosnian, Gorani. Our activities mainly focus on **families, health, work, education and social issues.**

FAMILY: starting from year 2000 up to year 2010, the **Adoptions Project** has been achieved. Thanks to the adoption from a certain number of Italian families, 100 families living in Kosovo in critical situations have been helped in recovering an acceptable living standard. Starting from this experience and knowledge, in year 2011 the **Families Support Project** has been initiated with the aim to help a more number of families in Kosovo tried by a chronic poverty. The Project is realized with the cooperation of 10 local Associations helping now 1600 families equal to about 8000 persons. From 2020, a different way of implementing the projects has been put in place, renouncing to the collection of materials in Italy and to their shipping to Kosovo. Food aids will continue to be distributed as in the past, purchasing products and preparing aid packages directly in Kosovo and involving local NGOs of both Albanian and Serbian ethnicity in this activity. Thanks to the savings in the costs incurred so far in Italy for the logistical organization, the other aids will be purchased locally, based on real and verified needs and also increasing the economic support for specific projects in order to ensure that the aid does not become chronic, but is an opportunity for a path of self-sufficiency for the families, thanks to projects related to job opportunities and microcredits. ASVI's role remains that of planning and managing the entire activity, finding the necessary materials and funding; the task of local NGOs is the selection and care of families, the distribution of aid. During each mission, and in the current also through video calls and similar tools, the Project is verified and monitored both with meetings with the heads of local NGOs and with visits to the helped families.

HEALTH: Medical Projects: delivery of necessary medicines for destitute chronic sick people and many other interventions decisive for the quality of the life and frequently for the survival, for the benefit of hundreds of people **Children Medical Project:** starting in 2009, as a result of numerous requests of interventions for kids, the project includes two annual medical screening in Kosovo carried out thanks to the intervention of medical specialists at our consulting room in Mitrovica and the possible recovery in Italy of the young patients suffering from diseases cannot be treated in loco. Even if for some of them there would have been no hope even if transported in Italy, in many other cases we succeeded in saving their young lives. As today we have brought in Italy 132 children who have been underwent to difficult but successful cardiosurgical interventions or to receive a correct diagnosis of their illness. We have achieved **Dentist and Dental projects** by offering in particular with free treatments at the dental clinics of Kotlina and Mitrovica, set up by Asvi and directly managed by our volunteer dentists. In 2010 we have reached the goal of the project by donating the Mitrovica clinic to the health administration of the city, which took on the responsibility of managing it directly

WORK: Start-up Project: considering the work as priority for the recovery of a respectable life, we constantly incentivize working activities, favoring the ones with easy and immediate implementation, through focused projects and promoting micro-financing for new initiatives. To date we have promoted several artisan and agricultural activities. The related profits allows the families to support themselves without economic contribution of third parties.

EDUCATION: believing that the school is the basic requirement in the process of building up a character, we have started several projects. **School Support Project:** we assist both several institutions and single students delivering school and information technology items and equipment and contribution for the purchase of schoolbooks. **University Project:** distribution of scholarships. Since the start of the project in the school year 07/08, we have donated 31 scholarship of Euro 500,00 each, corresponding to 50% of the annual costs for each student, pledging the financing for the whole duration of university studies but with precise rules and clauses to be respected. At today 14 students have already graduated. In 2011 the School Twinning Project between Italian and Kosovar schools has been concluded.

SOCIAL ISSUES: After having carefully verified the value and the modality of operation, we have intensified the support and the collaboration with several local associations, both Serbian and Albanian, which work on the field of disability and social and economic disadvantage: **QMFG, Fisniku Initiative, Asvi Nord, Asvi Sud, Sindrom Down Association, Opfakkos Association, Podrzi Me Association.** Our support consists in providing various kinds of aid for the families they support, financial contributions for specific projects and for management of the association and its social activities. The Family Support Project is carried out with some of these associations. Between the concluded projects there are the construction of a new scholastic building for the orphans living in Kotlina village, the restoration of the school of Handikos directed to disabled children, the support for 25 refugee families which lived in an old crumbling building and now living in new and appropriate houses, the twinning with youth sector of some sport clubs. Project **"Helping those who help"**: not being able to directly promote projects in many parts of the world with situations of great socio-cultural need, thanks to the sharing of a friend and supporter, ASVI has decided to support other associations that have activated projects focused to the formative and educational sphere of school age population. After a careful evaluation of the associations and their projects, we have identified and supported a project in Tanzania with the association Il battito che Unisce from Ancona and one in Togo with Il Pozzo della Farfalla of Potenza

IN ITALY: ASVI, aware of the widespread suffering also in Italy, has always supported locally people and communities by delivering food and materials and collaborating with other associations. The commitment became more consistent in 2020 following the economic crisis due to the Covid 19 emergency with numerous interventions in favor of families and people in great financial difficulty.

A report is available for each single project, providing details on its purposes, activities, funds, beneficiaries