

The Charity Centre for Refugees is a non governmental, non religious and an apolitical organisation. It was created in October 1999 with the support of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It was incorporated in the Registration Chamber of the Ministry of Justice in the Republic of Moldova as an NGO in November 1999.

CCR objectives are:

- a. to provide cultural, social and moral assistance to refugees and asylum seekers living in the Republic of Moldova and to offer them a place where they can meet, discuss their common interests, share their opinions, and find solutions to common problems
- b. to facilitate the integration of refugees and asylum seekers into the Moldovan society
- c. to promote anti-discrimination and increase tolerance towards refugees and asylum seekers
- d. to inform the refugees and asylum seekers on the UNHCR and implementing partners' work, their rights and duties, their opportunities of becoming self-reliant in the Republic of Moldova, etc.

The average number of visitors/beneficiaries of the CCR rose up to 35-40 persons daily.

The CCR's work is focused mainly on facilitation of the pre-integration of vulnerable categories into the society, i.e. organizing cultural orientation and extra-curricular activities. In co-operation with other NGOs, the CCR implemented various cultural and social activities for refugees/asylum seekers with a view to integrate them into the Moldovan society, to encourage their community building and self-sufficiency. Local population also is also encouraged to take part in these events in order to increase its tolerance and foster anti-discriminatory attitudes towards refugees/asylum seekers.

Starting with 2000, the CCR was carrying out State language courses in order to promote the integration of refugees/asylum seekers into the local society. From 2011 till now, within the collaboration between Ion Creanga State University and UNHCR, CCR monitors and facilitates the organization of the State language classes. Starting from 2004, the CCR also keeps providing the interested refugees with Vocational Training in order to improve their skills and to increase their job opportunities on the local market.

The staff of CCR is composed of 4 persons who are responsible for the implementation of the project. The employees of CCR work in a multicultural environment and express tolerance towards cultural differences. For reaching the goals of the project, CCR staff organises entertaining activities for refugees, asylum seekers and their children like the International Women's Day, the International Children's Day, World Refugee Day, New Year party, Christmas celebration, birthdays of refugees, etc. Furthermore, CCR supports Representative of UNHCR Office and Bureau of Migration and Asylum in the Republic of Moldova, provides excursions for refugee children and their parents to museums, zoo, historical places etc.

During EVS project volunteer works mostly with his supervisor – project coordinator, in order to plan and organise activities for and with beneficiaries from the Charity Centre for Refugees.

Basic social services

- Charity Centre for Refugees (CCR) provides its premises for refugees, asylum seekers, beneficiaries of humanitarian protection and stateless persons where they can organize meetings, openly discuss and solve their problems.
- The Women's Group Initiative, the members of which are refugee women, holds its meetings in the CCR office and can freely use CCR premises for its activities.
- CCR renders laundry services to its beneficiaries both at its office and at the Temporary Accommodation Centre.

- CCR accords a well-equipped gym-hall and a room featuring upholstered furniture, TV, toys, books and magazines.
- CCR provides temporary shelter of one to three days to its beneficiaries in the cases of emergency.
- CCR distributes humanitarian aid (food, hygienic items and clothes) received from other international organizations or NGOs.

Cultural and integration activities

- The CCR as a UNHCR implementing partner organizes cultural and entertaining activities for its beneficiaries and their children on occasions of international and local holidays.
- In collaboration with other NGOs and institutions CCR carries out sport events, ecological activities, where our beneficiaries participate together with the local population.
- CCR holds excursions to the historical places of Moldova thus familiarizing its beneficiaries with Moldovan history, culture and traditions and facilitating the integration process.
- CCR shares with the refugee community joyous events and support it in the moments of grief, providing its premises for moral and spiritual needs on the occasions of weddings, birthdays or remembrance days;
- CCR carries out activities and supports those refugees who live in rural areas, collaborating with local authorities.

Educational activities

- CCR informs its beneficiaries about the upcoming events, UNHCR partners activities, education issues etc.
- CCR provides its beneficiaries and their children with computer courses and Internet services in our office and in the TAC.
- CCR provides its beneficiaries with vocational training in order to enhance their self-reliance.
- As all the refugees and stateless persons in order to receive Moldovan citizenship have to pass a Constitution and State language exam, CCR holds Constitution, history and culture lessons for refugees, providing them with examination tickets.
- CCR monitors the holding of State language courses. Those beneficiaries who have an 80% attendance receive bus passes.
- CCR carries out foreign languages classes taught by Peace Corps and EVS volunteers.
- CCR holds extra-curricular activities for children and adults both in the Temporary Accommodation Centre and in our office, namely the classes of painting, ceramics, straw weaving, embroidering, and also performs video, PowerPoint presentations etc. CCR holds sewing and knitting workshops for refugee and asylum seeking women.

CR office is situated in the capital of Moldova – Chisinau. Chisinau is the main administrative, economic, scientific and cultural centre of Moldova. The city has just over 700 000 inhabitants and the whole metropolitan area is roughly one million inhabitants. In terms of number of inhabitants, Chisinau is the largest city of the country. Chisinau is divided in five administrative sectors; Botanica, Buiucani,

Center, Ciocana and Riscani. It is often referred to as the greenest city in Europe due to the high proportion of well maintained green spaces.

Charity Centre is situated in the Center district of Chisinau and it's easy to access by any means of public transport. Temporary Accommodation Centre for asylum seekers coordinated by CCR is located in the district of airport, 30 minutes away from the city centre and it is easy to access by any means of public transport.

Volunteer(s) will live in a host family or volunteer's flat with shared kitchen, toilet and bathroom. Also volunteer(s) will have access to the land line phone in their accommodation. Internet can be accessed in the internet cafes and wifi spots in the city, also some volunteer flats have internet access at individual basis. Depending on the district of the city where volunteer will live he/she can reach the center by foot or by public transportation. Volunteer(s) will receive pocket money, food and local transportation allowances from ADVIT Moldova.

Normally volunteer(s) is/are picked up by the mentor(s) and is brought to the place of the accommodation. For better adaptation ADVIT provides volunteer(s) with on-arrival orientation, volunteer(s) receive map of the city, dictionary, intensive language course and are enrolled to on-arrival training. ADVIT also arranges first meeting at host organisation in order to get to know the Charity Centre for Refugees, staff, beneficiaries, activities also to discuss rights and responsibilities of the volunteer(s) and the schedule of volunteer's working week.

Volunteer can have lunch outside the centre, or bring her/his own food. The activities take place in and outside the centre. Also volunteer can assist in excursions and fieldtrips, and work in the Temporary Accommodation Centre. The working day of a volunteer will be 6 hours per day, because CCR staff members are working part time.

At the Charity Centre for Refugees volunteer(s) will be supported by his/her supervisor, who will help him/her to find his/her place in the organisation, supervisor is the person that will answer all the questions that a volunteer will have. Volunteer stays in touch with all the staff members that help him/her in realization of activities. Volunteer will have his/her own work space, provided with computer connected to Internet and all the necessary office facilities.

Volunteers will have individual lessons of Romanian or Russian language.

About ADVIT – Contact Point



ADVIT is the Contact Point Organization that coordinates volunteers in different Hosting Organizations. During the volunteer's stay in Moldova, ADVIT takes care of the administrative tasks connected to living abroad and helps with many specific or unforeseen situations.

ADVIT will take care of the following aspects for the API volunteer: accommodation in a host family or a volunteer's flat with shared kitchen, toilet and bathroom, where each volunteer will have his/ her own room; pocket money; food money; transport money; mentor; meeting the volunteer at the airport; on-arrival meeting; communication with sending and hosting organizations; any issue that the volunteer has to deal during his/her stay abroad.

About the city - Chisinau



The Association office is based in the capital city of the Republic of Moldova. Chisinau is Moldova's main industrial and commercial center, and is located in the center of the country. In the center of the city there are based all-important administrative and political institutions (the Parliament, Government, etc.), API is also located in that area. The population of Chisinau municipality counts around 800 000 inhabitants. Though the country's official language is Romanian, Russian is also omnipresent, due to the fact that Moldova used to be part of the former Soviet Union. With a basic knowledge in either Romanian or Russian,

it's possible to get along quite well.

Contrary to the relatively poor rural area and despite the partly still visible Soviet past, Chisinau gives you the feel of living in a decent city with everything needed and appreciated in daily life: You'll find modern supermarkets and malls, cafes, bars, restaurants, discos and parks. Furthermore, the public transport works very well.

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