



Arab Orthodox Christian Community Romania

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR CHILDREN (DPAC)

ACTIVITY REPORT

Clubul Prieteniei (Friendship Club) - Rucăr, Argeş county

17 November, 2012

Theme: *"Stop Violence Against Children"*

Date: 17 November, 2012

Venue: Clubul Prieteniei (Friendship Club) - Podul Dâmboviței – Argeş county

Participants: 47 children (aged between 5 to 16 years old)

Activities:

1. Role plays
2. Drawings
3. Poems
4. Songs
5. Flash mob and prayer

Facilitators:

1. Diana Zotea
2. Daniela Sirbu

Activity description

On 17 November 2012 Clubul Prieteniei (Friendship Club) in Podul Dâmboviței-Argeș county, together with the Arab Orthodox Community in Romania, celebrated the “Day of Prayer and Action for Children” by organizing various activities based on the theme “Stop violence against children” and carried out by the children aged between 5 to 16 years old.

The activities were focused on the following aspects:

- violence in schools;
- physical and psychological abuses against children;
- violence on playgrounds.

The activities started with the blessings of the priest of Podul Dâmboviței parish who spoke about dangers arising out of acts of violence.

Further, the children received flyers prepared specially to describe the significance and the importance of the theme adopted by DPAC for the current circle. In order to deepen their knowledge about violence, the children were divided into workgroups with different themes as follows:

- 1. Art:** The participants made a collage of suggestive drawings about violence against children and created more than 150 angels using origami art.
- 2. Poems:** They made poems trying to raise awareness about violence against children.
- 3. Role plays:** There were presented three role plays in order to show different cases of school and playground violence. This way the children tried to draw attention to some situations from their own life experience (school or playground).

Different questions had been discussed regarding the theme by the participants, while the activities ended with a flash mob symbolizing peace, and a moment of silence and prayer. The participants lighted candles as a sign of solidarity with the children of the world who are victims of violence.

As a result of the performed activities, the children acquired a more profound knowledge about different forms of violence and became more aware of their rights and responsibilities within their communities.

Outcomes

A. Participants

The children responded to the evaluation questionnaires and expressed their interest to participate in such activities in the future such as creating arts, saving environment, taking care of animals, and having outdoor activities.

B. Facilitators

The venue was excellent for such activities specially for the outdoor ones because it is situated in the middle of the nature and surrounded by mountains ensuring the adequate logistics for developing the activity in a proper way.