



GRUNDTVIG PARTNERSHIP 2013-2015 “ENGAGING DISADVANTAGED PARENTS TO ACQUIRE PARENTING SKILLS”

„Testimony Succes on the European work market”

Project financially supported by the European Commission under Lifelong Learning Programme, GRUNDTVIG Sectorial Programme, Grundtvig Learning Partnership Action. The contents of this information is the sole responsibility of the authors. The National Agency for EU Programmes in Education and Training and the European Commission are not responsible for how the contents of the information will be used.

Introduction

The labour market can be defined as "a place of meeting, in space and time, on a global view and on structures, between the labour demand and supply". Thus the labor market is in a relationship of dependency both with the other factors of production market as well as with the goods and services market. Like in every other market, here is the meeting place for multiple buyers and sellers. The buyers are the employers and the sellers are the workers. They constantly realize employment services transactions being influenced by the other participants' decisions. Even if some participants are not active at all times, meaning they are not searching for new employees or new jobs, on the labour market there are always thousands of companies and workers who trade. If the object of their trades is the highly skilled labour services, which can only be offered by the individuals with higher education like engineers, doctors, IT technicians, in this case the search area and the meeting between the labour demand and supply can be extended to the whole national or even international economy.



The free movement of workers is a fundamental principle enshrined in article 45 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Under this article and the EU secondary legislation, EU citizens are entitled to:

- look for a job in another EU country;
- work there without needing a work permit;
- reside there for that purpose;
- stay there even after employment has finished;
- enjoy equal treatment with nationals in access to employment, working conditions and all other social and tax advantages

European single labour Market concept refers to the desire of establishing a unified economic regulated space in all the 27 EU countries in order to optimize the conditions for commercial activities and other economic and social initiatives. In the single European market, specific policies are applied to maximize the benefits of free movement of people, goods, services and capital.

A successful career

Most of the time people ask themselves if they should choose between a successful career and a happy family. Things shouldn't though be like this. Sometimes, not effortless, it is though possible to have them both. A successful career can make a family happy when there is communication between its members and mutual support.

The year 1999 represented for me and my family the beginning of a new challenge. It was the year when I started to work at Zopass Industries Romania S.R.L.- ZIR company as an equipment operator. With hard work and proving commitment at my job, I was promoted to team leader after only a few months. This first promotion and recognition of my work and efforts really pleased me but, in the same time, made me realize the potential I could have and motivated me to work even harder for the successful career I realized I wanted. My goal was in a very short time accomplished because I first became a shift leader and then, starting from 2002, I became head of the department having to manage 170 employees.

Because Zopass Industries Romania S.R.L.- ZIR is an international group of companies, during the time I had the opportunity to attend various workshops and internships or exchanges with foreign partners. All these activities played an extremely important role in my personal and professional development helping me improve both my knowledge and skills, but also my abilities in management and leadership.

Of course, my work brings many satisfactions to me and my family, but it also implies a lot of pressure and stress and, sometimes, even missed family moments. I, however, think that the mutual support and the communication between family members can help overcome these difficulties. My wife, Mihaela Andrisan, also works from 2004 at the same Zopass Industries Romania S.R.L.- ZIR company as I am and she has also built herself a successful career with hard work and determination. She started as an equipment operator and after three months she was promoted to the quality department as a process control operator, position she filled in multiple departments. Starting from 2007 she became department head, working hard and with responsibility and following her personal motto: *Give respect in order to be respected.*

Daniel Andrisan – parent of the target group from NGO ProșcoalaVarias

WHAT I WILL BE WHEN I GROW UP!

Short life story

Carer for the elderly

Since I was little, the question “what will you be when you grow up?” was magical to me because you could be whatever you want, there were so many possibilities. I always wanted to have more than one profession. At the beginning I was always saying I want to be a singer but, later on, when I was playing with my dolls I was imagining that I opened a tailor shop where I was making the most beautiful dresses and skirts in the world. Only that playing with my dolls became boring to me. After all, dolls cannot talk back. And they cannot bake an apple pie like my grandmother.

If someone would now ask me again what do I want to be when I will grow up, I would answer that I want to take care of the elderly, help them how I can, like my mom does. I think that every person has his/her own perfect job and it is very important to do in your life something that you really like. But the most amazing feeling for me is when I see that I can help my grandparents somehow, especially now, when my grandfather is sick and my grandmother has so much work to do. I would like to work with the elderly, to help and take of them because it's in their eyes that you can see each time the most beautiful sparkle. I think that's because they are happy they were not forgotten and someone is taking care of them as they took care of their children all their lives. And, of course, the elderly always have time for storytelling and they are always ready to encourage you, to teach you something new.

Poienar A. – 8th grade student at Varias School

Truck driver

If you ask me, the best gift I ever got was a blue truck. I got it for my birthday when I was eight. I still remember that day clearly. I was playing in the backyard with my friends Andrei and Ionut. Actually, I admit, I wasn't very interested in playing then, instead I was watching and excitedly waiting for my father to return from his factory job. I was so happy when I saw him coming in the backyard with a package so big I was scared to ask if it is for me. Yes it was my gift. Even Andrei and Ionut where curios of what I got, so I opened it right on the spot and there it was. My favorite blue truck, with a yellow cabin and huge wheels. From there on my passion for trucks started, and the blue truck was the first in my now pretty big collection.

Later on, when I was in fourth grade, my father stopped working in the factory. He built a sort of a workshop in the back of the house, where in the afternoon he was repairing cars so slowly I became his little helper, this is how he liked calling me. The entire time he was working he was telling stories about foreign countries, all sorts of places and new people. I was trying to imagine all of them so every morning I was

running around the village with my blue truck, covering great distances. The game was simple. The store across the road was the border and around Andrei’s house was Italy, and of course around Ionut’s house, who was living at the other end of the village, was England.

Now, actually from three years ago, my father is a truck driver. I miss him sometimes, but every time he is coming home, he brings me the best toy cars and trucks. And more than that, he tells me stories about all the amazing places he saw. And that is why, when I grow up, I would like to be a truck driver, and drive a big truck through all the countries my father was in. Maybe we could even drive together. And take mom with us too, of course. She may not know too much about trucks but she makes the best sandwiches, so we can't travel without her.

Lapuste D. – 8th grade student at Varias School

Nurse

Ever since I was a little child I wanted to become a nurse. If my little brother was sick and he had to take his injections, I was not running in the other room, but furtively watching how *The Lady with the needles* - that’s how I used to call our neighbor who was a nurse at the local hospital – how she used to open her blue box filled with all kinds of complicated little bottles and various weird objects whose name I don’t even know. Anyhow, one day *The Lady with the needles* noticed that I was staring at her and at her magic little box so she gave me as a gift one of her little bottles. It even had a brown cap on it.

For me that was a very important gift which I have never forgotten and which made me want to become a nurse when I will grow up. I think a nurse’s job is very important because she helps people when they are sick and when they most need help. Also, a nurse can work in a hospital and help the doctors to perform all kind of complicated surgeries to save patients’ lives. I know that being a nurse is not an easy job, but I love the fact that you can work with people. I really want to become a nurse, maybe even work abroad, and for that I know I have to study hard and have good grades in school.

Dabaca R – 7th grade student at Varias School



SAVE THE CHILDREN TIMIS BRANCH



...a group of Save the Children Timisoara Branch volunteers

Considering that in the past few years the job field in Europe in general, and Romania specially, is in a continues transformation, here we could highlight the job migration between European countries, the quality of the working place and the carrier evolution. In the same time EURES – The European Job Mobility Portal (<https://ec.europa.eu/eures/public/homepage>) talks about the fact that in Romania, in the last 3 months of 2014 the percentage of people able to work (with age between 15 and 62) hit 62.2%.

Having this information, a few members of Save the Children Timisoara Branch team, the one responsible of working directly with our young voluntaries, wrote some testimonials towards youth witch intend of having a career in the social field.

In the present days, Save the Children Timisoara Branch coordinates a number of 80 volunteers, between 15 and 25 years old, pupils and students (in psychology, social worker, education field, medicine) witch are participating manly in all our projects.

TESTIMONIALS:

Badi Cristian - Volunteers Coordinator



“ 2008 was the year I started working at Save the Children. With small steps I gain experience that helped me reach the professional level that represents me today. The social field is helpful for generating in you, abilities and values that are responsible for discovering yourself, discovering the softest but in the same time the strongest part in you: the voluntary act.

Having the opportunity of working in this NGO for 7 years allowed me to understand it's needs, it's projects and it's cause: protecting the child, promoting he's rights. This helped me realize the similarities that exists between me and my view of the world and Save the Children, similarities that determent the quality of the volunteer coordinator that I am today.

What did I learn working at Save the Children? That I believe in the kindness of strangers, that people all around us a willing to help, that is a strong bond between us all, a bond that is strongly highlighted in every smile we bring on children faces, with every thank you we get from people in need, from every bonding that we have with each and every beneficiaries and with every kind act we do benevolent.

Save the Children, voluntarily, help men and women discover how kind they are.”



Mihaela Erimescu - Parental Counselor

“As a parental counselor I have the mission to help parents develop relationships with their children through encouraging positive behaviors and modifying the unwanted ones. During my 5 years of practice in this domain I have learned that it’s not enough to only inform parents about the parental methods, but they also need to understand the messages in order to change their behaviors; and the best way to do this is to act on the parents beliefs, attitudes and behaviors.

Improving parent’s abilities and their attention regarding their children needs leads to a series of significant improvement concerning the child’s harmonious development and it is what makes me feel satisfied about my job.”

Bianca Cotiga - Educational Project Coordinator



“My name is Bianca, and I work as a project coordinator at Save the Children Romania. The experience I gained working as a project coordinator can’t compare to anything. Being a project coordinator means meeting a lot of people and doing a lot of paperwork, but the beauty of it is that you doing all of that in order to help kids and families in need.

I work with kids coming from vulnerable groups. Kids and parents with no education and no material possibilities. I enroll them in school, meditate them at an after school program, play with them, listen to them and doing a lot of fun activities to keep them motivated to come to school, and most important to finish it. I work with kids coming from kindergarten to high school teenagers, giving them educational, social and material support.

The most important thing I learned from my job, is that, if you learn yourself you can help others learn too, and nothing is more beautiful than putting a smile on a sad kid face. “



Camelia Blaga – Psychologist

“As a psychologist I work daily with parents that are preoccupied with their children’s education and emotional development. After parents become aware of their resources through counseling, I guide them develop a healthy life environment in order to ensure their children and families to feel emotionally comfortable. I also try to offer solutions according to the family’s needs. Children are an important part of this whole process as they can help in contributing to the changes the family wants. I use patience and empathy when working with children that deal with different issues.

Working together with families in order to help them develop healthy, balanced relationship is one of the things that brings me a lot of joy and fulfillment, especially when I receive positive feedback from the families and when I see that through counseling they achieved their goals. I am happy to be told that my ability to build strong therapeutic relationships, stabilize, collaborate and reach therapeutic objectives with families has created meaningful and lasting change in their lives.”

Natalia Raileanu - Project Coordinator



“ With the experience I gathered over the past five years I definitely work in the right field. My passion and work happen at the same time. I've worked in a number of jobs over the years, doing a variety of things, and finally, I've decided that working at Save the Children Timisoara is the place for me. I have decided that the best job to have is a job you love, and I've finally found the perfect job for me.

I love a lot of things about my job. We are working to support vulnerable children to get access to education so it can be lots of fun reading with the kids, learning new skills and getting to know their families.

Working with Save the Children Timisoara, I have the energy, passion and motivation to work on challenging projects while acquiring new skills and knowledge. Every day I learn something, even if it is just how to motivate a child to do homework, that makes so much sense for me as a project coordinator now. I enjoy the challenge of doing work to reach big goals.

Also, I love the people I work with, and the autonomy I'm granted. It's great to work with people that care about their company and doing a good job. I really like that our team is making an impact on the community where we live and work. We have been able to make some improvements in the life of children supported by our organization, so it has been encouraging to see the changes and that people are responding well.”

Raluca Laza - “Growing Together” Project Coordinator



“ Since the beginning of school I've learned that if I want to do what I was good at and to have a job that will let me do so, I have to be good in school and to learn as much as I can. Thus I've made high school, after that college in psychology, the road I want to go for. During college I was forced to work during summer so I can afford to finish my college. Therefore I worked in Spain as a waiter for three months and I must say it wan't an easy job, increased effort and very solicitant. Then I learned that without going to college I would have to work like this all my life. After I finished college I succeed to get better jobs that involves working with people. Thus I've started work as Project Coordinator at Save the Children Timisoara (Romania). Which is the best job I have ever had, because I'm doing what I like. The reason are that I am working with children and their families, managing and controlling the steps I have to follow in the project, I can organize things based on my way of doing things and the results can be observed very easy. Is the kind of job that leaves a good thing behind like helping unlucky



children and their families, bringing a little sunshine in their lives. You know that this project change their perspective in life forever. What can you wish more than do what you like and in the same time helping others.”

TURKEY

Workshop – 04.09.2014 – 07.09.2014 - Çanakkale / Turkey

Testimony Success on European work market Target Group

Target group are educators of adults in the field of adult education, consultants, workers or employees of educational institutions, trainers from EU countries participating in the program, who work in adult or general education.

Main Activities Programme



The workshop aimed at promoting by means of a non-formal creative working atmosphere, provide innovative and interesting alternative approaches for adult education on European work market.

The participants learned new techniques, explore their own creative potential and they tried into practice with forms of workshop focus.



They played communication games in working groups, presented of the programme of adult Education about disadvantages families, communicated with the people who lived the same problems from different countries.

The participants visited different institutions for the observation and had a certificate at the end of the workshop. These Certificates were very important for the participants who had a chance of promoting at their jobs or working at different jobs or finding new jobs.

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