



A.S.V.I. Onlus 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: in Kosovo, Republic auto-proclaimed independent on 17 February 2008, and mainly in Mitrovica. The town, situated in the Northern part of Kosovo, 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 with 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 ASVI members; funds rising initiatives.

CO-OPERATION: A.s.v.i. Onlus 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 2016

The inalienable principles that rule 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. Our Association 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 9 local Associations helping now 1500 families equal to about 7.500 persons. The help is implemented by delivering food supplies, medicines, pampers, furniture and all what necessary to their needs striving, at the same time, because the aid does not become chronic, but it is an opportunity for a path of self-sufficiency for every family, also thanks to specific projects related to job opportunities and micro-credits. The role of Asvi in the Project is to plan and manage the entire activity, to obtain the necessary materials and funding; the task of the local organizations is the selection and care of families and the distribution of aid delivered by Asvi. During each mission, the Project is verified and monitored, both with regular meetings with the persons responsible of the local associations and with the 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 100 children who have been underwent to difficult but successful cardiocirculatory interventions or to receive a correct diagnosis of their illness. We have achieved: *Dentist Projects* restoring the activities of three dentist surgeries both in Serbian and Albanian sector, cooperating with the dentist's surgery Albaitaldent for free treatments to our adopted families and activating the *Dental Project* with intervention of prophylaxis and training for oral health operators, preventative interventions in schools and free treatments in dentist's surgery in Kotlina and Mitrovica, set up by Asvi and directly managed by our volunteer dentists. During year 2010 we have reached the goal of this project donating the dental surgery of Mitrovica to the Public Health Authority of the city, which has assumed the commitment of directly managing it.

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, providing equipment and useful materials and promoting micro-financing for new initiatives. Up today we have promoted several artisan (hairdresser, seamstress, metalworker, plumber, glass-maker, car washing) and agricultural (livestock and beekeeping) activities. The related profits will allow these 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 in various places in Kosovo and single students delivering school and information technology items and equipment and contribution for the purchase of schoolbooks. *University Project:* distribution of scholarships for academic support. Starting from academic year 2007/08, beginning of the project, we have donated 18 scholarship for the amount 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 there are 10 students already graduated. During year 2011 the *School Twinning Project* between Italian and Kosovar schools have 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: *Handikos, Q.M.F.G., Fisiniku Association, Asvi Nord, Asvi Sud, Handikap Association, Syndrom Down Association, Opfakkos Association, Mitrovica Municipality.* Our support consists of supply of economic contributions for specific projects but mainly in delivery of various types of aids like food supplies, clothes, furniture and whatever would be necessary bot for the families supported by these associations and for their management and social activities. The above mentioned Project Families Support is carried out with some of these associations. Between the concluded projects we have to remind 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.

IN ITALY: Asvi has always been supporting individuals and communities delivering foods and materials and collaborating with other associations. Aware of people's suffering also in our surroundings, ASVI is committed in Italy too.

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

Contacts in Italy and in Kosovo: Umberto Forti e-mail gifotec@tin.it Marinella Dal Passo e-mail marinella.kart@gmail.com