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IMPACT

Together for a better community!

“Love your neighbor”

IMPACT I

Lupeni, Romania

Sept. 15th – 25th, 2005

Project Summary

After a close analysis of the problems in our community, the IMPACT members decided to help 20 families with a precarious financial situation. Each club member contributed with funds donated by their families. In this way, they succeeded to help 20 families with clothes, shoes, food and toys for children. This initiative is truly laudable, as it came from youth of ages 13 to 17 years, who mobilized and implemented this project.

Problem Statement / Justification

Jiu Valley is one of the poorest regions in Romania, an area specialized solely on coal mining industry. In the past years, this industrial sector witnessed an ongoing decline, which contributed to the increasing poverty and unemployment rate. Many people lost their jobs and there are few other opportunities to get a job in the Jiu Valley. According to a report issued by the Romanian Academic Society in 2001, the unemployment rate in Jiu Valley is five times higher than elsewhere in Romania. From 2001 on, a number of mines have been closed down, and the work force demand cannot cover the work force offer. In Lupeni, one of the Jiu Valley mining towns, there are many families who cannot afford a decent living. Besides offering direct support to the families, we wanted to be a good example to our community; thus this project includes also an educational component. The example offered by the IMPACT club through its involvement in the community problems should play an educative role for the citizens from Lupeni.

Objectives

- A higher awareness of the community problems;
- Helping 20 poor families from Lupeni.
- Setting a good example for community service and caring for the needy

Activities

- Planning the project;
- Collecting the donations;
- Implementation of the project.

Evaluation

Due to this project, the IMPACT I members learnt how to carry out research meant to identify the problems within a community. At the same time, they became more familiar with the needs of their community. Through this project, 20 poor families have been helped with food and winter clothes.

Partners & Sponsors

IMPACT I members and their parents.

Budget

The total amount of money raised for the project was 1000 RON (350 USD). The money was collected exclusively from IMPACT members' parents.

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