



TRAINING WORK GROUP - biblio@ccess to success!

presents some of the successful courses from local libraries

Course: IT training for the elderly – BuniNet project

Where? Municipal Library of Mediaș, Sibiu County

Who? Antonela Sofia Barbu, librarian



NEED : In 2007, Antonela was trying to teach IT to her parents. Then, more and more seniors started coming to the Mediaș Libray to learn about the computer, in partnership with The Pensioneers' Association 2007. Buninet Club was born and it includes many talented people, in: handmade, painting, photography, gastronomy, electronics, design, foreign languages.

EFFORT: In 2010, Antonela wrote the project **BuniNet – grandparents learn to navigate online** and she won a grant from IREX in the competition called „Train your community”. This is how 100 elderly people received a chance to learn how to promote their abilities in the online environment, with the hope of some material benefits or a part-time job. “*We drew the attention of public administration and showed their work in fairs, festivals and exhibitions*“, says Antonela.

RESULTS: In the first project year, 20 of the beneficiaries managed to earn extra money from the sales. Some even donated part of the earnings to humanitarian causes.

The story of Aurelia and Mircea from the BuniNet family was used by journalist Cătălin Ștefănescu in the book “Căutătorii de povești”.

BuniNet members are active on social networks and present in all cultural and social events.

TESTIMONY: “*Thanks to the internet and this course, my life is different. I used Facebook announcements to sell nuts and I talked with my daughter who is away. I became friends with many people and, although I have to travel 15 km for these courses, BuniNet is a second family to me. A family of beautiful people.*”, says Mircea Pîslaru or Mircea BuniNet.

And Antonela adds: “*Their stories are full of emotions, because they often found refuge in the library, after a death in the family or an illness, through online games and movies. They are an example for their community, as they keep walking, whatever hardships they face. I am proud of them, they are the grandparents I wish I had!*”

<http://www.buninetmedias.blogspot.com/>

Course : “I want to learn how to cook”

Where ? Communal Library of Vama Buzăului, Braşov County

Who ? Simona Luminita Hermenea, librarian

NEED: After she participated in the “Basics of New Library Services” training, this librarian set her mind to give users new useful services, through which she could share her knowledge in order to benefit them in the future.

EFFORT : The service called “I want to learn how to cook” brought in many children boys and girls, curious and eager to learn how to bake cookies. The librarian tells us more: *“I cannot describe in words the enthusiasm and joy in their eyes everytime we met in the gastronomy lab. They learned to cook tidy and responsibly. We had unforgettable and funny moments when they painted themselves with the ingredients or dropped eggs. They were very cute while waiting to taste the unbaked dough. They eagerly waited to taste the results of their work and bring some of it home to their family.”*

RESULTS: In around 350 total of practice and online documentation, 16 children developed the ability to prepare cookies and to use a computer and browse the internet to create a personal notebook of recipes.

TESTIMONY: *“I am very happy that I had the courage to put my passion in practice, to share it with members of my community, even if they are so young. I am sure that what they learned will help them a lot in life. I am grateful to the authorities, to the manager of the school and the parents for their support. (librarian)*

Course: Notions of computer use**Where ? Communal Library of Năruja, Vrancea County****Who ? Adriana Bratie, librarian**

NEED: The library needed to become a welcoming space, with information, socialization and education for the community. For many children who come to the library, the computer was „the box on the table”, just another furniture piece that needs dusting.

EFFORT: Courses add value to the librarian profession. It was not easy and it required perseverance, love and patience. In over 200 hours of training, with no lesson plan or training of trainers, over 200 people learned about the internet, Google, how to use them to do their homework, how to write in Word, how to play online and even how to make Math fun with Intuitext. They learned how to scan, use a USB stick, burn CDs. Adults created email addresses and communicated with relatives abroad, with Skype and Messenger.

RESULTS: The biggest challenge was when the Naruja Church took us as partners in the project „Choose school”, organized by the Romanian Patriarchy, together with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Labour, the European Union and World Vision România, with the purpose to prevent and eliminate the school drowout phenomenon. Competing in many sections, the pupils used the equipment in the library and the librarian’s help to make Power Point presentations and filmed interviews with Movie Maker and to create essays and drawings.

With a great portfoliu, Mădălina Coroiu won the second place and Mirela Scarlat won the first place for the filmed interview and a laptop and she qualified for the national stage.

TESTIMONY: *”From all this I understood that it is very important to find a place where you can learn. Where you can grow as a person, when your parents are away and when your grandparents can only give you food. It is also important to give back to the community you live in. For me this place is the library. The time spent at the library was very useful and now I can proudly say I won my very first prize – a digital photo camera, because I CHOOSE SCHOOL and ... MY LIBRARY”,* says Mădălina Coroiu, pupil in the eighth grade at the School of Năruja.

Course: How to find a job
Unde? Municipal Library of Turda
Cine ? Doce Cristina and Gabriela Hornoi, librarians

NEED: The project „How to find a job” is addressed to highschool graduates and people who, irrespective of their age and studies, are interested in finding a job, and also to everyone who wants to learn something new.

EFFORT: The project was started in May 2011 and was promoted with posters, flyers and local newspaper articles. The project offers free training about accurate writing of a curriculum vitae, of a application letter, about preparing for a successful interview and about the ways to search for a job. The service was open with the support of the County Library “Octavian Goga” Cluj-Napoca.

Another course offered by the library to senior citizens is the “Initiation in IT and internet usage” The library organizes training sessions, an hour daily, for 30 days. At the end of the training sessions, 100 graduates know how to write a document in Word, to create folders, to navigate the internet, to use an email account and social networks.

RESULTS: Almost 60 people learned how to search for a workplace. Also, those who were interested, had the opportunity to participate in the English language course, for beginners and advanced. In 2011 the library had 2 groups of beginners (20 people) and in 2012 they had 9 beginners and 12 advanced learners, with the support of a specialised teacher, volunteer Mariana Surdea.