



# WHO WE ARE

“Asociația **Taxiul cu Bomboane**” (The **Candy Cab** Association) was founded in 2016. Our story however starts a couple of years prior, when taxi driver Ion-Cristian Roman started reading stories to the children in paediatric hospitals in Bucharest.

Whilst driving clients around, Christian started raising toys and books that he would bring to the hospitals each Saturday. In time, hundreds of volunteers and donors have joined us and now the taxi has a variety of special destinations, every week.

Some of the projects that we have developed over the years are: *Fairytale Evenings, Tiny Pillows for Tiny People, Sweet Little Candy Mugs, A Stocking Full of Candy* and *Chatting with Dolphins* to name a few.





The “**Taxi**” is our symbol now. It’s representative of small deeds that impact the lives of people around us in a grand way. And you are welcomed to take a ride in our “automobile”. Our destination: the paediatric hospitals and special needs schools in Romania.

Volunteers of all ages and from all walks of life, both from Bucharest and overseas, visit these locations to share the love, bring smiles on the faces of the misfortunate children, offering them hope and encouragement!

**In order to run all of these projects, our organization welcomes all the volunteers and all the support that you can offer us!**

# OUR MISSION

Our main focus is the wellbeing of ill and disabled children. We organize “playtime therapy” activities and other campaigns designed to uplift the spirits of the little ones and help them interrelate.

Being hospitalized can be an overwhelming and sad experience for children. Many of them feel vulnerable and scared. These difficult experiences can have a deep psychological impact and the children need someone’s encouragement and support.

**This is where our members and volunteers step in to make a change!**





# OUR PROJECTS

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a diverse group of people and animals celebrating. In the center, a man with a mustache drives a yellow car. Surrounding him are various characters: a clown, a king, a doctor, a pirate, a queen, a knight, a reindeer, a rabbit, a mouse, a dog, a dragon, and many others. The background is dark purple with stars and confetti.

# NEW: THE CANDY CARAVAN

The Candy Caravan (**Caravana TCB**) is our latest project. Volunteers and partners of our association collect or purchase non-perishable goods, hygienic and sanitary products, medicine and medical equipment that are necessary for **remote and isolated communities** in our country.

We have started this recent project during the recent **coronavirus pandemic**, our goal is to reach as many people as possible and help out as many communities as we can.





## NEW: JUST A GIRL AND HER VIOLIN

The girl with a violin is none other than violinist **Raluca Raducanu**, friend of our association. A few times a week, during the **pandemic lockdown**, we toured the hospitals of Bucharest together with Raluca.

Our goal is to bring a moment of relief to the hospital staff, and help the patients forget about their worries, at least for a few moments.



# ONE DAY HOLIDAY

## Summer and Winter Edition

Throughout the summer and winter holidays, **Taxiul cu Bomboane** runs a great program with **special needs children**! This includes the students of Special Needs Schools no. 4 and no. 5 Bucharest, "Saint Mary's" Vocational School for the Hearing Impaired and the Bucharest Gymnasial School for Vision Impaired children.

Every Monday, 6 to 12 children, together with their attendants have **a mini-vacation**, in the mountains or by the sea. Everybody benefits from free transport and free lunch on the day, plus (depending on the destination) ski lessons, tubing, cable car rides, ATV rides, visits to the dolphinarium or the sea lions, visits to the Constanta Aquarium and strolls on the beach!





# FAIRYTALE EVENINGS

Fairy-tale evenings was our original project and now it's a permanent event that we run three times a week.

Volunteers of all ages visit the paediatric hospitals of Bucharest and read stories to the little ones and the parents that accompany them.

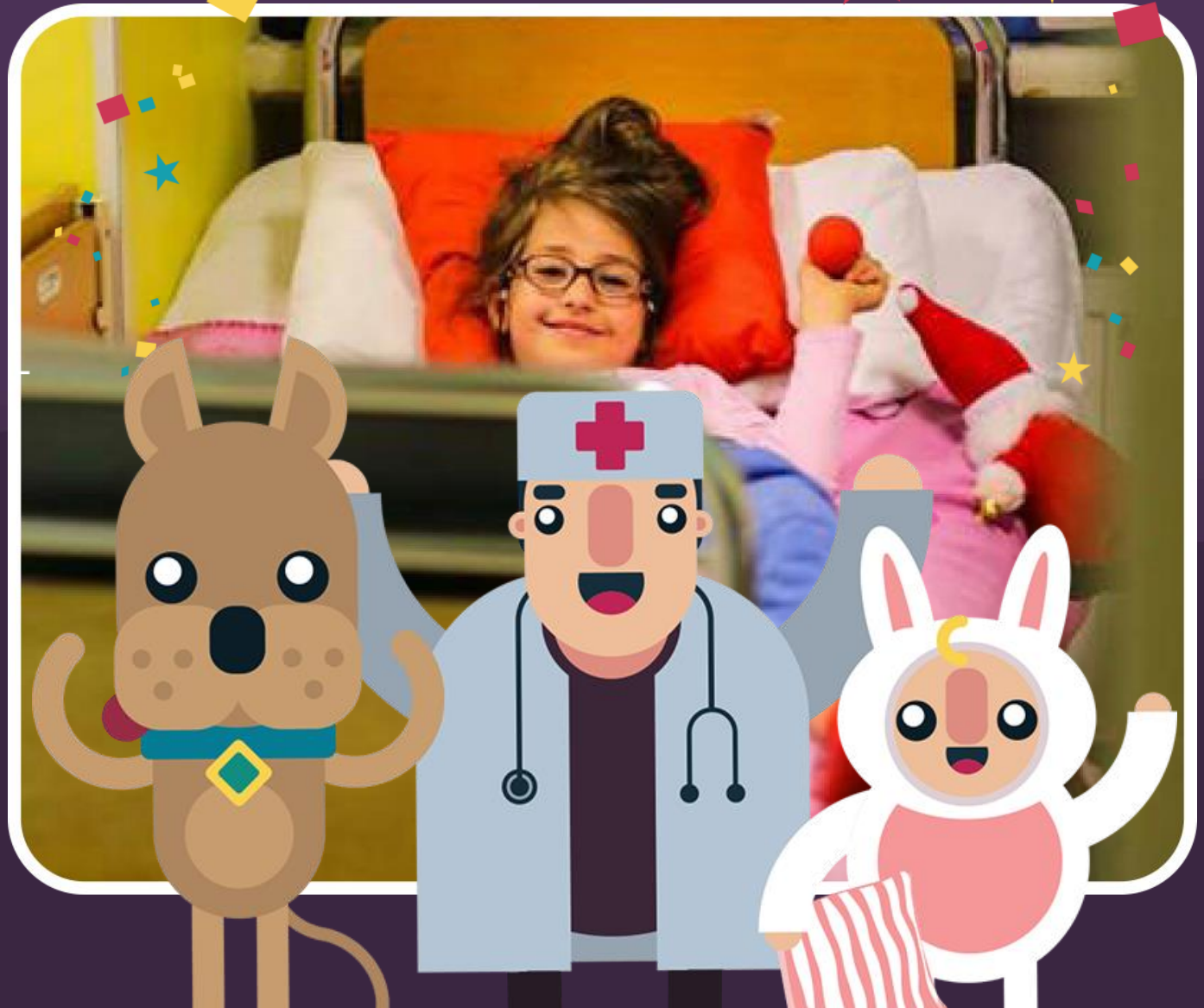
The first event was in December 2015 “**Luna Poveștilor**” (“Fairytale Month”) had over a hundred volunteers showing up. Since then **thousands of people** have participated, either by reading stories, or donating books and toys.



# TINY PILLOWS FOR TINY PEOPLE

“**Pui de Pernă pentru Pui de Om**” (“Tiny Pillows for Tiny People”) is an event we run every year, during Greek-Orthodox **Easter**. The children in hospitals receive new colourful and happy **pillows**!

We make sure that the gift packs also include **a book**. We wish to make the children happy, but also to stimulate their interest towards reading!





# SWEET LITTLE CANDY MUGS

**Cănuța cu Bomboane** (“Sweet Little Candy Mugs”) is the campaign that we run on every June 1st, the International Children’s Day. Like most of our projects, the things that we collect come from genuine needs.

On the 2016 debut of this campaign, children received candy in mugs adorned with motivational messages, and were surprised by the presence of their favourite cartoon and comic book characters! Nearly **2000 people** have made various contributions to this project.

*Good deeds are like candy: they’re inexpensive and they can bring a lot of happiness to the tots!*





# SOCIOTHERAPY THROUGH THEATRE

Co-financed by the **Bucharest Sector 3 City Council** in partnership with the “**Candy Cab**”. The participants were the students of the **No. 5 Elementary School for Children with Special Needs**. The project featured workshops on communication, theatre and interrelation for children with forms of autism and other developmental issues. For the finale the children organized a play within the **Metropolis Theatre** of Bucharest.



PRIMARIA SECTORULUI 5  
CONSILIUL LOCAL SECTOR 5  
CENTRUL CULTURAL SI DE TINERET  
„STEFAN IORDACHE”



PRIMARIA  
SECTORULUI 3  
BUCUREȘTI

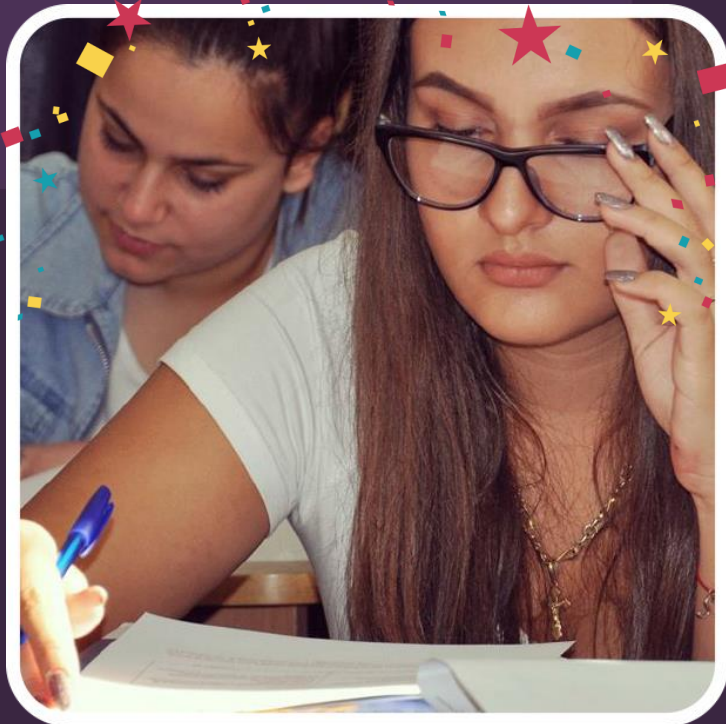


## YOU ARE INVITED TO THE THEATRE!

Project co-financed by the **Bucharest Sector 5 City Council** in association with the “**Candy Cab**”. The children of the **No. 9 Elementary School for Children with Special Needs** and the “**Cutezatorii**” Centre for Children with Social Needs took part at our workshops on theatre, communication, socialization and social inclusion. The project finished with two shows featuring dancing and recitals of the pupils.

# BALLET, FITNESS AND NUTRITION FOR TEENS

Project co-financed by the **Youth and Sports Ministry** in partnership with our association. The participants were teens with social needs and special needs from Bucharest and Urziceni. Our friends, professional nutritionists and ballerinas, have taught workshops on **fitness, ballet, nutrition** and **wellness** for the youngsters. Our goal was to teach youngsters good posture, dignity and a healthy lifestyle.



MINISTERUL  
TINERETULUI ȘI SPORTULUI

## YOUTH UPGRADE

Project co-financed by the **Youth and Sports Ministry** in partnership with the "**Candy Cab**". The participants (tweens of ages 14-25 from social needs backgrounds) were offered free career guidance and were taught free courses on financial education by personal development experts.







**Bomboland** (Candyland) is a 100m<sup>2</sup> space within **Flaros** ([www.flaros.com](http://www.flaros.com)).

Currently, the space functions as a warehouse for sweets and toys. One day, we hope to organize this place into a space where we organize workshops for children with special needs.







Fairytale Evenings



Hopeful Fridays



Free Visits to the  
Optician



Escape to the  
Country



Carnavalul Bradului  
de Craciun



Sweet Little Candy  
Mugs



Tiny Pillows for Tiny  
People



Sociotherapy  
Through Theatre



Are Invited to  
the Theatre



Chatting with  
Dolphins



Summertime  
Santa



A Stocking Full of  
Candy



The Month of  
Fairytale



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**Spitalul Clinic de Urgență pentru Copii “Grigore Alexandrescu” – Wednesdays from 18:30**

**Centrul de Recuperare pentru Copii “Dr. Nicolae Robănescu” – Thursdays from 18:30**

## Bomboland - within Flaros SA