



ProjectsAbroad

# Salutare Moldova

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTERS OF PROJECTS ABROAD MOLDOVA



## Issue X October 2011

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## Moldova October Edition 2011

Inside –Out

### Old Orhei

On October 1st, all volunteers and our Country Director have visited the Old Orhei. Old Orhei is famous because it is an ancient city; it is a unique natural and historical complex in the open air. The museum is situated between the villages Trebujeni and Butuceni, 60 km North East from Chişinău, and is surrounded by the Raut River. In this trip our volunteers saw the Archaeological Museum, The Monastery in rock and the oldest village from Moldova. On this territory was located Geto-Dacian fortress (6th-1st Centuries. BC. Oe.) Fort Golden Horde Shehri al-Jedid or Yangi-Shehri (second half of AD 14th Century.) Orthodox monasteries (c 14th Century.), and the Moldavian town Vechi (15th-17th Centuries). As a result of enormous archeological excavations here were discovered the cultural layers of different epochs such as - the Paleolithic, Eneolithic, and Iron Age, and most of what was discovered here you can see in the National Historical Museum, like for example: the pot with silver. It is unusual to enter a church made of rock by monks with their own hands with some primitive instruments. You enter a long corridor like a hole in the ground, and all is dark, only the sunlight coming from behind you helps you to see the way, and suddenly you discover a warm place with a beautiful wood altar, full of many candles. Also, it is amazing the natural improvising balcony which has an open view, from where you can see a wonderful green landscape, the Răut River and the new museum. The village has the oldest houses in Moldova. Old houses with thatched roofs, cellars in the old style, old carpets, etc. Sometimes this territory is used for climbers and parachutists because of the steep hills.



## Moldova October Edition 2011

### Care project

By Michelle Braud Delsaux, France, Care project, 1 month

### Rencontre avec la Moldavie

Ce fût une belle rencontre cette arrivée en Moldavie où j'ai été reçue chaleureusement dès mon arrivée à l'aéroport et chez ma famille d'accueil. Avec beaucoup de gentillesse de la part de l'équipe de Projects Abroad. Les villes de Moldavie sont très belles et ressemble beaucoup aux grandes avenues françaises. J'ai eu la joie et le bonheur de pouvoir travailler dans un centre pour enfants autistes grâce au personnel de Projects Abroad. Je travaille avec une équipe locale très présente, à l'écoute, et très



chaleureuse. Avec les enfants j'ai été très bien acceptée et j'ai pu m'en occuper avec des jeux. En particulier, j'ai proposé des activités sportives quotidiennes qui sont très appréciées. Bien sûr pour les enfants autistes il faut être très patiente car ils se fatiguent très vite, il faut aussi être très calme dans toute les situations. Mais c'est vraiment très bon de pouvoir les aider. J'espère en apprendre sur l'autisme un peu plus chaque jour pour pouvoir apporter chaque jour un peu de bien-être et d'aide. Je ne remercierai jamais assez Projects Abroad et toute son équipe de m'avoir permis de recevoir cette joie et de vous connaître tous. Avec Helena (une autre volontaire) nous avons été au Festival du vent : un moment très joyeux, très gai, beaucoup de couleurs très belles ainsi que des danseurs avec de magnifiques costumes et beaucoup d'allure. Il y avait beaucoup de monde et de très beaux objets d'artisanats faits à la main. La joie était partout au rendez-vous avec beaucoup de sourires. Une ambiance très agréable ponctuées par des chants et un peu de bousculade mais le plaisir d'être la suffit pour en profiter.



## Moldova October Edition 2011

### Medical Project

By Sarasa Tohyama, Medical project, 1 month

### Medical Internship Report

The first two and a half weeks of my time here in Moldova were spent in the Mother and Child Hospital. Here, I shadowed a pediatric surgeon who spoke English (Doctor Natalie). The hospital consisted of different departments in pediatric surgery including Urology, Neurology, Ophthalmology, Oncology and Orthopedic. I was able to watch multiple operations each day. Every day was a different case and the variety was extremely interesting to see. Some of the highlights of what I had seen include surgery of the lungs, small intestine and brain. Natalie was a great doctor as she always stood with me as I watched surgeries and explained what each operation was and how the patients became sick or hurt. From her, I have learned so many medical terms and how medicine is practiced in Moldova compared to Japan or Canada. Also, although I initially didn't have great interest in children, the experience has made me much closer them. Following my stay with Doctor Natalie in the Pediatric Surgery department, I briefly made a stop for a day at the Maternity and Gynecology department, which is in a different building but part of the Mother and Child Hospital. Here, I was able to see the removal of the uterus and a baby being born by a caesarian section. The connection between the mother and when the baby is born was one of the most incredible moments to see. The next week and a half was spent at E. Cotaga where I had a translator, Julia take me around to all of the departments. The departments I saw included Burns, Facial/Oral/Maxilla, ENT, Ophthalmology, Endocrinology, Malnutrition and Hepatology. I spent the majority of my time at the Burns department where I went around the ward to talk to patients and spent time in the bandages room to see the degrees of burns the children had. It was hard to hear stories of some of the patients there as there were a number of children who had severe marks from their burns and abnormalities with their face, arms and legs due to not being treated early enough when they were initially burned. Also in the Burns department, I was able to see a number of operations with the skin so that patients were able to move and have flexibility with movements of their arm and legs. In the other departments at Cotaga, I was able to see a few operations including the removal of the tonsils and chronic disease of the ear. The rest of the time was spent talking to patients and this helped me learn about different symptoms and diseases. The rest of the two weeks were spent at the Emergency Hospital. Here, I mainly stayed in the microsurgery department where I spent most of the time in the bandages room or in the operation room. Most of the operations were on the hand and fingers using microscopes. Many of the patients had injured themselves from working with machines in the factory. Besides watching microsurgeries, I was also able to visit the Neurology and Ophthalmology department in this hospital. Here, I was able to see a few surgeries; most of them were very long procedures. In the Neurology department I was able to see two full operations where the tumor in the brain was removed from an adult. This was the most interesting surgery for me to watch from my entire stay here. Overall, I had an amazing experience in Moldova in all of the hospitals. I was able to see operations and procedures that I would never be able to see back home; it was truly astonishing.



## Moldova October Edition 2011

### Donation

#### October Donations

In October volunteers and Projects Abroad Moldova made several donations to different orphanages and daily care centers.

One important donation was made by Martijn van de Belt, which has donated a photo camera to "Start" daily centre for the activities, accommodates people with intellectual disabilities. Silvia Barresi, another volunteer who worked in the same center at "Start", she has donated to the center nail polish, chocolate, around 6 comfortable pillows where beneficiaries could rest when they are tired. Simone Cook has donated different activity games, pens, cricket set, soccer balls, face paint, windmills, koala souvenirs, vegemite, etc. to the young people with disabilities from "Start". All the staff and children were very grateful for these generous gifts from Projects Abroad volunteers.

We would like to say also thank you to Mrs Michelle Braud Delsaux, which helped children with autism syndrome in the "Atentie" Social Association for invalids from Moldova. She made a donation which consists of books for children, coloring books, books with stories, "Babar" block games, simple pencils, markers, pens, crayons, toffee, ABC coloring, etc.

Thank you for all those who contributed with a generous gesture for the children and people in need from Moldova!



# Moldova October Edition 2011

Photos page

## Volunteers' Happy Moments



## Moldova October Edition 2011

### Events

By Elena Chirica

### Festival of wine 2011

On 8 and 9 October in Chişinău the Festival of Wine 2011 was celebrated. Michelle (French volunteer from the Care project) and I (Elena) went together to MoldExpo, the place where the entire city celebrated an important festival for Moldovans. As we arrived, we saw many people in traditional Moldovan clothes, a boy and a girl holding the traditional bread and salt with which they met guests. In one second, the Prime Minister Vlad Filat arrived with other politicians, and the gates of the festival were opened. People singing and dancing entered through the gates following the God of the wine Dionisos, the musicians, and the famous folk singer, Maria Iliuţă with her folk group. The festival represents the wine from different parts of Moldova: Cricova, Ştefan Vodă, Bălţi, etc. Beautiful young girls on horses, girls with basket of grapes and young boys with carts pulled by horses all dressed in traditional clothes represented their region with clowns and masked men, artists showing their work of a whole year, hand embroidered things, Moldovan coats and pots, etc. This year the festival of wine was a beautiful representation of Moldovan culture with the most precious values.



## Moldova October Edition 2011

### Events

#### The day of the city

October 14 is the day of the Chişinău city, this is a national holiday. Each year this day is celebrated with beautiful events organized on the main street, Ştefan cel Mare, which, on this day, is closed for the traffic. In the morning the politicians will put flowers at the Stefan cel Mare monument, and will go to the church. Later, in this day the administration of each 5 districts of the city: Botanica, Raşcani, Center, Ciocana, Buiucani Districts represent their skills. Each district come with something: concerts, handmade objects, traditional clothes, carpets, pots, wood in various forms, pictures of animals in glass, etc. A traditional event is the wrestle, the boys of different ages fight for a prize. The young man who wins will receive a prize like a hare. The older winner will take the ram. For the boys of the middle age between 15-16, they fight for the cock. On this day, people eat barbecue food, drink wine, dance and sing. The entire city is celebrating a new year of holiday life. In the evening, the local national groups will sing and dance. In this year we will end the day with the famous group Zdob și Zdub, Morandi from Romania, etc.

#### Happy Birthday Chisinau!!!



# Moldova October Edition 2011

## Events

### Trips in October

In October month Projects Abroad Moldova organized for volunteers several excursions and trips in the most interesting places.

1<sup>st</sup> October, Old Orhei

4<sup>th</sup> October, Milestii Mici Winery

8-9 October, Trip to Kiev, Ukraine

14 October, the National Day of Chisinau city (meeting with volunteers in the city)

15 October, Soroca city (the Soroca city, the Soroca Fortress, Gypsy area, Thanksgiving candle)

21 October, Rascani District in the North of Moldova



We will participate at a round table with students and teachers from the Department of Tourism of the Agriculture College of Rașcani(created in 2010). This meeting will be at the North of Moldova, 220 km from the Chișinău in Rașcani city (and 220km back). Each volunteer will present a speech of 10 minutes about his/her country, or something else interesting from their countries. The presentation will be in a PowerPoint presentation, or if they have laptop to bring in a DVD or CD presentation, and give an oral presentation too. The students from the Agriculture College also will have a short presentation about Moldova. After this round table, we will do an excursion in some picturesque places from the North of Moldova: Pădurea Domnească (Reserve Costești and Duruitoarea, which are two villages near the Prut River, at the border with Romania).



## Moldova October Edition 2011



### Social Media

**Join our official Facebook Group: Projects Abroad Moldova – The Official Group**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/Projectsabroad.moldova>

**A monthly update with Projects Abroad Moldova Newsletters:**

<http://www.projects-abroad.co.uk/volunteer-destinations/moldova/newsletters-from-moldova/>

**and information about Projects Abroad Country Blog:**

[http://www.mytripblog.org/mod/blog/group\\_blogs.php?gl=true&group\\_guid=2943](http://www.mytripblog.org/mod/blog/group_blogs.php?gl=true&group_guid=2943)