

## Transforming lives. Building futures.

Unlocking potential, one dream at a time.

Fostering resilience, inclusion and brighter tomorrows.

Proiect susținut de

Implementat de

Cu sprijinul









#### Agenda



#### 1. Overview: 5 years of impact

- Key achievements and milestones
- Stories of transformation and long-term results

#### 2. 2024: A year of growth and success

- Results, challenges, and learnings
- Celebrating progress and measurable outcomes

#### 3. Looking ahead

- Expansion plans: geographical and programmatic
- Innovative initiatives for deeper impact

#### 4. Communication and engagement proposal

- Strengthening partnerships and visibility
- Strategies to amplify the program's reach and engagement





"Let us remember that the measure of our success lies also in the positive impact we create in the world. Together, let us be the catalysts of change and build a world where compassion, equality and opportunity prevail."

Doron Klein, CEO AFI Europe, iMatter Gala 2023

# A partnership rooted in shared dreams.

We are privileged to have you, AFI Cotroceni, as a partner. Your dedication to our shared vision of a brighter future is matched by meaningful action. Together, we are not only transforming the lives of vulnerable young adults but also building a lasting legacy of compassion, equality, and opportunity — lighting the way for generations to come.



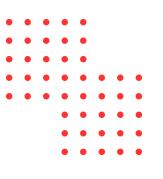
# Amplifying hope, transforming lives.

**Life plan** program is about offering vulnerable young adults the courage and tools to rewrite their stories — stories too often shaped by adversity—with hope, resilience, and opportunity.

For young people left behind by the system, this program offers more than just support; it provides a lifeline, a path to independence and a chance to redefine what their futures can hold.

Since 2020, we've walked alongside 61 young adults, helping them shatter the chains of poverty, stigma and exclusion. These are not just numbers; they are lives transformed, futures reclaimed and a testament to what is possible when we choose to invest in hope.





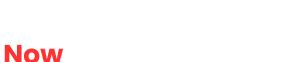
#### VALENTIN ALI

## Dreams enabled

#### **Before**

Valentin entered the child protection system at the age of 2 with his sister, Geanina. Raised by a foster carer until 15, he later moved to a care home, where he struggled with managing money. Passionate about hairdressing, music, and art, he hoped the program would help him grow and achieve his dream.





Valentin has proven to be a highly motivated individual, the project helpd him become financially independent and responsible. During the program, he found a job as a children's party entertainer, a role he enjoyed immensely. Inspired by this experience, he decided to take a step further and start his own event planning business focused on organizing children's parties. Currently, Valentin is working in his own company. Realizing that having a car would make it easier to travel to events, they decided to purchase one together. To support this new need, Valentin obtained his driver's license, allowing him to handle transportation and further expand their business capabilities.

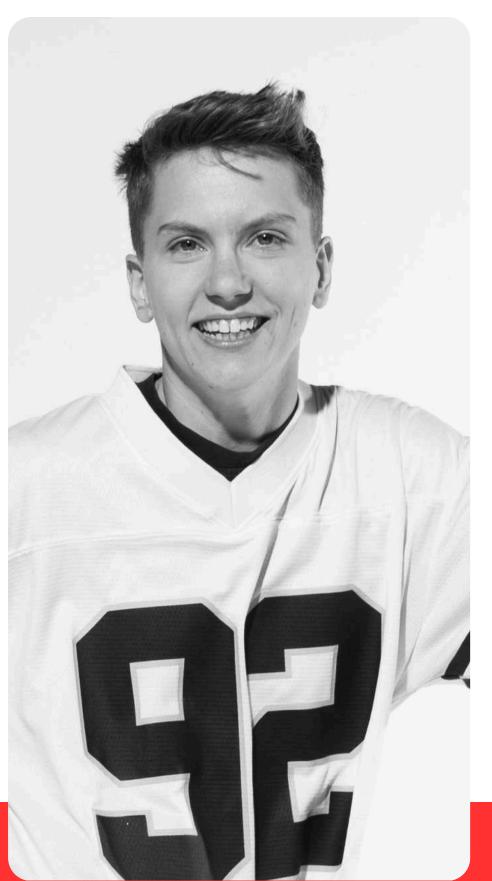


#### LAURA STOICA

## Breaking barriers

#### **Before**

Homeless after leaving foster care, Laura struggled to find stability, facing rejection in both personal and professional settings.



#### Now

Life Plan project has significantly transformed Laura's life. When she joined, she was homeless, but now she has a rented home and a stable job she enjoys, with strong relationships with her colleagues. She actively participates in the association's activities and is a Life Plan ambassador, inspiring others. Recently, she fulfilled her dream of pursuing a career in coffee by completing a Barista training course, boosting her confidence and motivation. While she has made remarkable progress, we hope to encourage her to take her baccalaureate exam to further her education and open new career opportunities.



#### **ELENA ASAN**

## Rising Strong

#### **Before**

Elena entered the child protection system at 6 due to her family's financial struggles. After a brief return home, she re-entered the system at 10 and remains there. At 14, martial arts trainers became pivotal in her growth, offering support and guidance. Turning 18 brought maturity and responsibility, fueling her dream to become the best martial arts trainer.





is another success story. She is a determined, disciplined and hardworking young woman who achieved full independence after completing the program. While she occasionally needed support to participate in sports competitions and navigate personal and professional challenges, she has consistently demonstrated resilience. Recently, she was rehired by **Decathlon**, where her previous reliability as an employee made her a valuable addition to the team. Elena is a capable individual who sets and achieves her goals, manages her budget effectively and knows when to seek guidance when needed.



#### George Fixon

# Hope beyond Hardship

#### **Before**

George's childhood was not a friendly one. Raised by relatives in hardship, George entered a children's home at 13 due to financial struggles. Though he knows his parents, he stays in touch only with his mother, who works abroad to support him. Life in the institution provided stability but lacked the emotional support and intimacy essential for his growth.







After joining the program, George initially struggled with gambling, but his openness about the issue allowed him to receive **targeted help, including addiction counseling**. Within just three months, he made remarkable progress, managing his finances independently by paying rent from his earnings and saving additional funds. Now, George is focused on building a stable and independent future, guided by his values of family, responsibility, and a desire to make a positive impact as a medical assistant.

#### **IULIU MOLDOVAN**

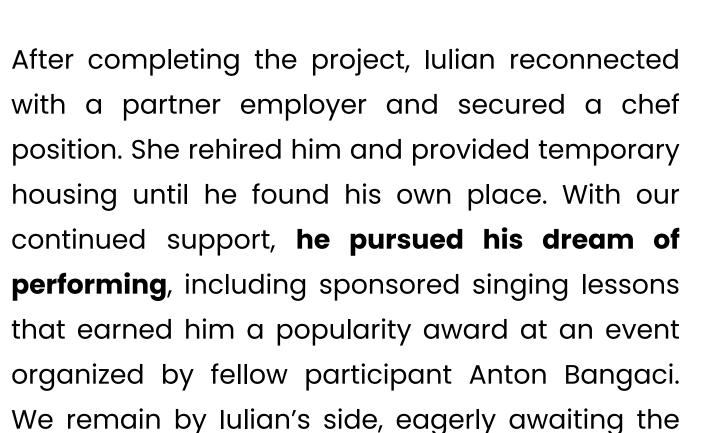
# Embracing passion

#### **Before**

Raised in foster care, he faced financial instability and emotional challenges after leaving the system.



#### Now



day he graces Romania's biggest stages.



#### MIHAI DUMITRU

# Overcoming the odds

#### **Before**

Raised in multiple care facilities after being abandoned by his alcoholic parents, Mihai faced severe instability.

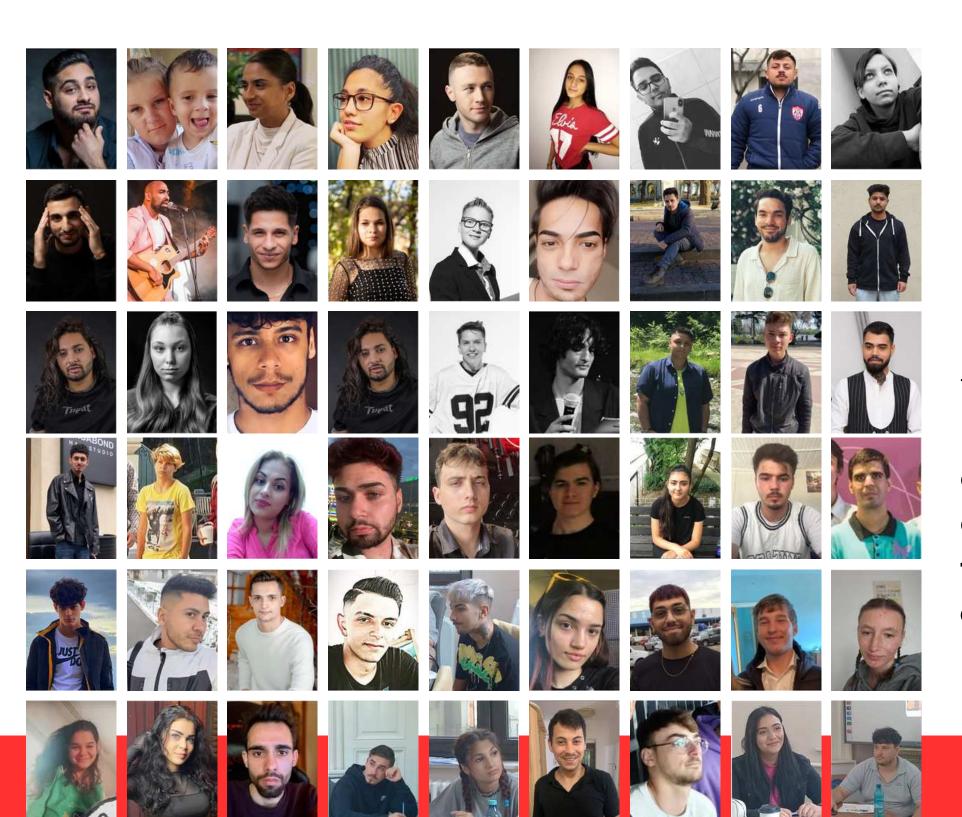




Mihai left the project after just one year and moved to the Netherlands to save money opening a barbershop. A highly determined individual, he took on three jobs and quickly managed to gather the necessary funds. He returned to his hometown in Romania, where he has been running his own barbershop for over two **years.** With a growing client base and great success, he has even been able to hire employees to help expand his business, showcasing his drive and entrepreneurial spirit.







## Rewriting futures. Shaping society.

These are just a glimpse into the lives transformed by Life Plan. Each story represents not only a changed individual but a ripple effect of hope and opportunity that touches families, friends and communities. When we lift one life, we begin to shift the trajectory of society itself, building a future rooted in compassion, resilience and possibility.



#### 61 lives changed, providing tools for independence and stability.

- 1408 individual sessions of social assistance and psycho-emotional support.
- 1154 psychological counseling sessions, helping participants heal and grow.
- 261 vocational counseling sessions, guiding participants to sustainable careers.
- 178 job market mediations.
- 199 educational counseling sessions, financial counseling sessions and coaching sessions.
- 111 workshops: emotion management, relationship building, skill development, self-awareness.
- 33 company visits, building life skills and confidence.
- 30 young adults remain engaged as ambassadors.





# Initial bariers

#### Challenges encountered

Distrust in anyone trying to help them
Lack of independent living skills
Emotional instability and various dependencies
Difficulty in integrating into new groups



## The path to renewed dreams

#### **Empathy in action**

understanding each individual's struggles and dreams.

#### A safe haven

housing, counseling and community support

#### **Dreams enabled**

rediscover hope, purpose and their ability to achieve independence

## How we address them

#### **Emotional and financial support**

Provided emotional and financial support to help young people overcome difficult situations such as marginalization, adaptation to current context, conflicts, independence issues and medical problems.

#### **Educational assistance**

Facilitated tutoring sessions to help young people prepare for the Baccalaureate exam, and supported them in completing and continuing their formal studies, such as hairdressing, driving license, hospitality, etc.

#### Housing

Offering the stability of a safe home and enviorment, without the risk of homelessness so they can focus on their developlement.



## How we address them

#### Life skills workshops

We conduct practical workshops on topics like financial literacy, cooking, maintaining a clean home, and building healthy relationships, preparing young people for independent living.

#### Job placement and career counseling

We provide guidance and support in finding employment, including resume building, interview preparation and direct mediation with potential employers, to ensure participants achieve financial independence.

#### **Mentorship and Specialized Courses**

Offered mentorship with professionals in the young people's fields of interest and provided specialized courses to support their development.





## Impact

#### **Visible Progress**

They show visible progress in their development, such as in communication, motivation, seriousness and responsibility.

#### **Inspired by Shared Experiences**

They are inspired by people who openly share their life experiences, such as trainers, guests and employers.

#### **Continued Engagement**

They have gained trust in the association members and continue to benefit from the association's support after leaving the program.

#### **Household Management Skills**

They have acquired knowledge related to managing a household and those who have completed the project have learned how to find a rental and manage on their own.



## Impact

#### **Increased Self-Confidence**

Young people have gained more confidence in themselves, their plans, dreams and actions.

#### **Improved Communication**

They communicate better, more openly and non-violently, with the association, their friends and colleagues.

#### **Appreciation for Practical and Personal Growth**

They appreciate practical activities as well as deeper ones, through which they discover themselves.













**But most** importantly, weempower them to have hope and the courage to turn their dreams into reality.

# Recognized for Impact



**Best Use of Social Media Advertising** WebStock Awards, McCann



**3rd Place** Romanian CSR Awards, **Category: Community Support** 



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**3rd Place** Civil Society Gala, 19th Edition



**Best Use of Video** WebStock Awards, McCann



#### **AWARDS**

#### Romanian CSR AWRDS (2023 - 2024) 3rd Place Category: Community Support

#### More good news to come...

We are deeply honored to be awarded a special mention at the Sustainable Development Gala (Digitalization Edition) on January 2, 2025





#### **AWARDS**



"Plan de Viață" is not just a project about and for 10 young people who have left the child protection system.

It's about trust, belonging and good people who believed in a chance for these young people.

It's about how we can change lives, if we do it together.









#### **AWARDS**

More good news to come...

#### **Award-Winning Champions of Digital Sustainability**

We are honored to receive a **Special Mention at the Sustainable Development Gala 2024 (Digitalization Edition)**, celebrating innovative projects that merge technology with sustainability. This recognition highlights our commitment to driving positive change through digital solutions, supporting key **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.

We will proudly share our journey and vision for a sustainable, tech-driven future in an exclusive feature on **TVR**.

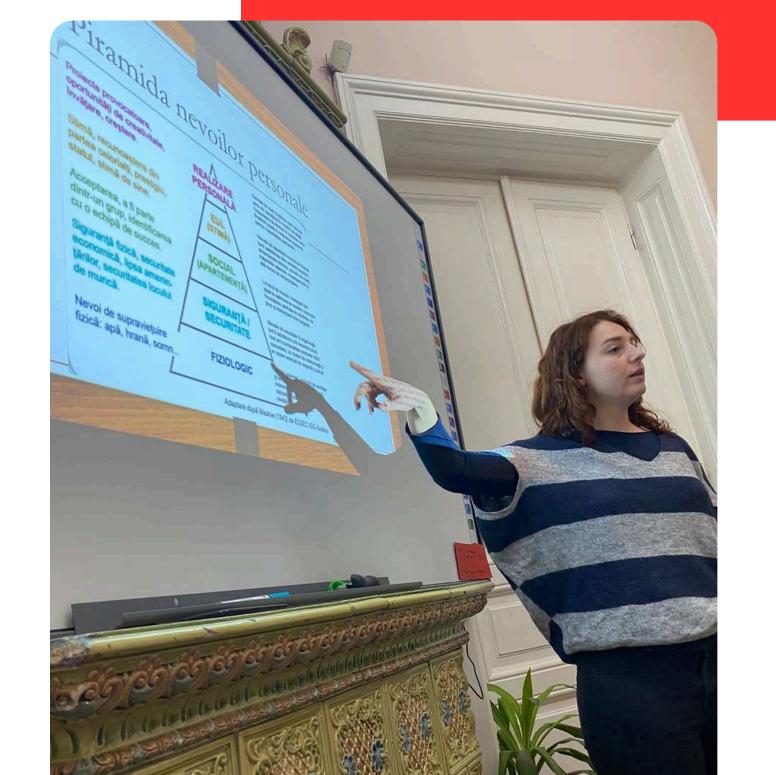






# 2024 - Key achievements

- 246 Individual sessions of social assistance and psycho-emotional support.
- 221 psychological sessions provided emotional stability.
- 17 participants engaged in transformative activities.
- 22 workshops delivered skills for life and employment.
- 11 participants employed, reflecting resilience and adaptability.
- 56 sessions of vocational counseling and job market mediation.
- 65 sessions of educational counseling and financial education.



## 2024 Memorable moments

#### Workshops and skill development:

Cooking classes.

Budgeting skills.

Healthy relationship workshops.

Tailoring sessions to teach independence and creativity.

#### **Recreational activities:**

Paintball, football matches, and group outings fostering community and confidence.

Personal Celebrations: Birthday events that create a sense of belonging and joy.













#### BOGDAN ŞTĂFĂNESCU

# Rising from adversity

Bogdan came to us after not eating for two days and with only the clothes on his back. He found out about the association and reached out to us for help finding a job. He was living in an abandoned house.







The program aims to provide him with the stability, guidance, and tools he needs to achieve independence, find meaningful employment as a barista, and reconnect with the sense of family he values deeply.

Through the Life Plan program, Bogdan is already making strides. He has begun vocational counseling and therapy, is actively searching for stable housing and is receiving assistance to regain legal identification and secure employment. Despite his hardships, Bogdan's resilience and determination drive his journey toward a brighter future.

Goal:
Rebuilding life after homelessness and loss.







# Looking ahead a vision for the future

#### We look toward the future with a bold vision for growth and impact.

The next years offer an extraordinary opportunity to deepen our commitment to empowering vulnerable youth and to extend the transformative reach of the Life Plan program.

Our mission remains clear: to rebuild lives, restore dreams and create lasting change.

Through innovative strategies, collaborative partnerships, and a relentless focus on empowering young people, we aim to not only expand geographically but also enhance the depth of our impact.

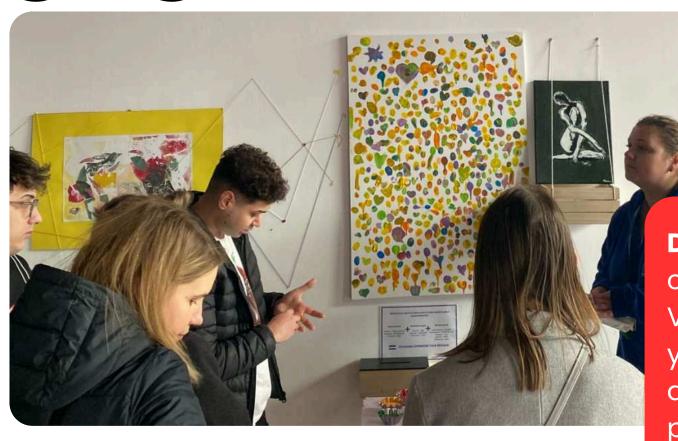
# Systemic change



Horizontal expansion (Geographical): Explore the possibility to replicate and scale the social housing component of the program across other regions or cities, ensuring adaptability to local contexts while maintaining program integrity.

**Vertical expansion (Depth):** Enhance the impact by building the capacity of DGASPC personnel, advocating for legal reforms, and collaborating with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Family to design a modern curriculum that integrates best practices in social assistance and child protection.

# Community engagement



**Experiential camps:** Organize immersive camps that bring together volunteers and young participants (including potential new recruits and former participants) to foster community building, leadership development and shared learning experiences.

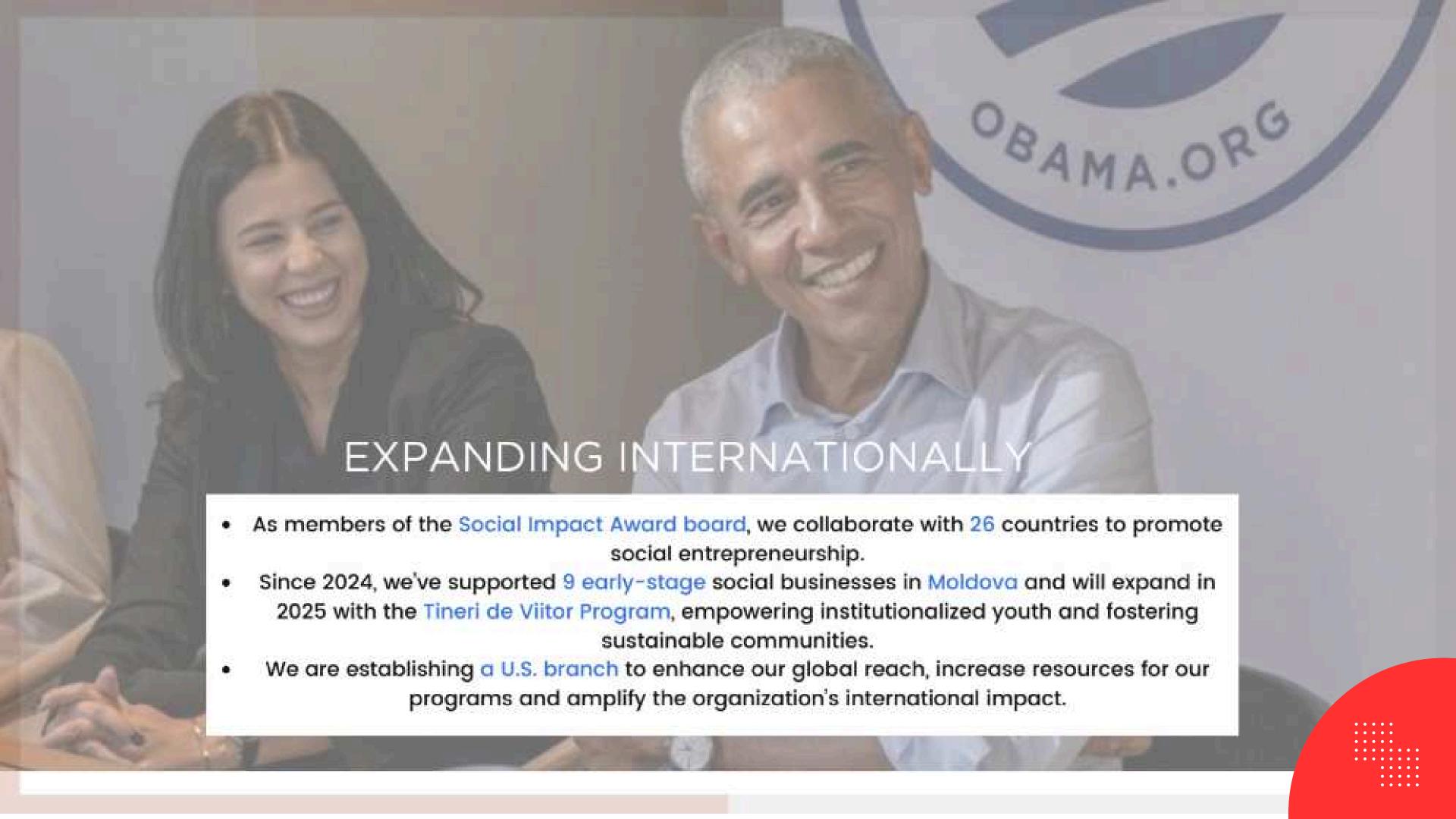
**Dedicated mentorship program:** Launch a structured corporate volunteering initiative (e.g., the "A FI Voluntar" program) that pairs professionals with young people for long-term mentorship, skill-building and career guidance, supporting their personal and professional growth.

# Immersive experiences



The DREAMS INCUBATOR HUB: a community space dedicated to fostering innovation and collaboration among vulnerable youth, volunteers and partners, serving as a center for education, creativity and social interaction, while also offering a platform for partners to host workshops, training sessions and impactful events.

Social integration transition workplace: within the HUB, a 6-month training and employment experience. Through technical training, soft skills development and career counseling, the program equips participants with the confidence and tools to transition into long-term employment, supported by partnerships with hiring companies.



#### Measuring long-term impact The legacy of Life Plan



The true impact of the Life Plan is a testament to the power of resilience, opportunity and human connection.

Through empowered individuals, we see stronger communities: resilient, inclusive and brimming with potential.

Each step forward, toward employment, emotional well-being and financial independence, echoes far beyond the individual, shaping a society where equity and hope prevail.

The legacy of the Life Plan is not just in what has been achieved but in the promise of what's to come: a future where no one is left behind and every dream has the chance to thrive.

#### For youth

A foundation for sustainable independence and lifelong growth. Empowered with life skills, career stability, and emotional growth. Increased employment rates, emotional well-being and financial independence.

#### For society

Lower rates of social exclusion.

Enhanced community resilience and economic growth.

Stronger communities built on equity and inclusion.

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## Thank You

FOR BEING OUR TRUSTED PARTENERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE YOUTH







