

**Ágoston Sándor Alapítvány**  
Budapest, 1092 Ráday utca 28.  
agostonalapitvany.bmrg.hu

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## PLANS for 2009

Ágoston Sándor Alapítvány, our public benefit charity foundation has been dedicated to support Hungarian minority communities, pre-eminently the remote ones living in dispersion in the Carpathian Basin outside Hungary – among them many reformed congregations, for nearly twenty years. In a mediate way, however, we also wish to enhance the lives of those nationalities who surround them. With the financial and human resources we have, we are backing the activity of NGOs and charities.

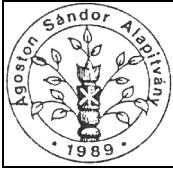
**We support kindergartens, schools, orphanages and other associations in underprivileged settlements** financially and with our active personal presence. Every year, we organise more than ten 3-10-day trips, when young people from Hungary get acquainted with the life of communities who are at disadvantage in their society. Among our volunteers there are students, theology students, teachers, special educators for the handicapped, doctors, engineers, architects, archaeologists, economists, musicians, etc.

### Only last year:

- We tried our best to meet the demands set by our basic goal to support the members of the Reformed Church living in dispersion. Thus we continued with our week-end projects for theology students: we organized eight such trips last year.

- We worked **in the mixed nationality village of Berzété**, to help convert an old school building into a **new community facility containing an orphanage, a special workplace for handicapped people, and a new youth centre.**

- We made contact with the inhabitants of Módos, in Vajdaság, who have more or less managed to renew their homes after they had been **severely struck by the floods** some years ago. We are working there **to create a community centre** in a building we selected last year, and which is going to have various cultural functions: library, cultural events (folk music, concerts, etc.), Hungarian language courses and related programs, as well as church services at weekends.



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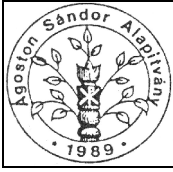
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- We went on with our traditional **conservation camps to save protected monuments**. Last year we helped in the reconstruction works of the really dilapidated art relic church of Óaljaboldogfalva, with its 800-year-old unique wall paintings, and that of the Sárd, another church building of exceptional beauty. In the preceding years, apart from doing conservation works on other historic monuments, we took part in building the **village museum in Visk**, to facilitate the **exhibition of landscape architecture and the treasures of ethnography** there. This activity was also appreciated by the profession of architects in Hungary, and we have been invited to lecture at prestigious exhibitions and conferences ever since.

- Right now **we support seven orphanages in Transylvania, Rumania, and one in Transcarpathia, Ukraine**. These are church institutions, but we do not make any distinction according to denomination. Rumania and the Ukraine are in great need of these institutions, since the network of social services in these areas is hardly or not at all organised by the state. Besides constant financial support, we make efforts to meet various local needs for equipment and facilities from toothbrush and washing machine to covering the cost of very expensive medical treatments. **This way we are able to better the living standards of many poor and multiply handicapped children**. In the same manner we also support the building and provision of schools and kindergartens in the handicapped settlements of these regions.

### We plan the following projects this year:

- Like in former years, we are planning to organize as many week-end projects for **theology-students** among dispersed Hungarians and dispersed Reformed Church communities in Slovakia, Ukraine, Rumania, Serbia and Croatia as possible.
- We wish to go on **supporting the completion of the 85% ready school-kindergarten in Felőr** for Hungarian children dispersed in the region. In the past years we gave several million forints to build the fence of the kindergarten and to install a heating system in the school. This year we are planning a week's volunteer-camp to arrange the environment, and form the school-yard and garden.



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- Supporting orphanages abroad is our top priority. Since the financial support of so many institutions is far beyond our means, we are trying to involve further sponsors from Hungary to support the orphanages in **Zilah, Zsobok, Holtmaros, Tusnádfürdő, Gyimesbükk, Szováta, and Sámuel Foundation in Beregszász**. Our personal presence is the guarantee that all support will go to improve the living standards of the most needy children.
- Hungarian schools, old peoples' homes and emergency children's services in Transcarpathia are the poorest institutions of all the Carpathian Basin. For this reason we would like to actively help with **the organisation and building of an emergency home for unmarried young mothers and their babies in Beregszász**. It is part of the plan to do volunteer work during the course of a summer camp.
- As in the creation of the orphanage in Berzéte last year, likewise, we would like to **contribute to the formation of a youth centre and village museum in Kőrös**.
- We are going on with the **construction works of an educational and church centre on a former flood scene in the Temes valley in Vajdaság**.
- We continue our **conservation project to preserve and maintain medieval monuments** primarily in the multicultural regions of Transylvania and Trascarpathia.
- Last but not least, like before we have taken on the financial support of some **socially handicapped students** abroad, who came into our view recently.

Our foundation is striving to make the maximum of supports available through tenders. Also, we are entitled to raise money by accepting 1% of personal income tax, and we have institutions, organizations and individuals among our supporters. With the devotion and sacrifice of our volunteers the sum of our supports becomes multiplied as it finds its way to the often needy members of handicapped or underprivileged communities, institutions and settlements.



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Our organization was founded by a Reformed Church theology student, who had put aside the pennies of his scholarship abroad in 1990. Ever since, all our activity has been done by volunteers, many times covering costs from their own resources. None of them gets paid or in any other way refunded for their services in foundation projects. For the past five years, as chairman of the advisory board, I have been covering hundreds of miles in the Carpathian Basin with my own twenty-year-old Audi 80. From early spring to late autumn I take a monthly average of two longer trips on my own or accompanied by one or two colleagues, and every year I organize more than ten trips or camps, when we take a lot of young people to Hungarian communities dispersed outside Hungary.

Ákos Horváth

Chairman

Ágoston Sándor Alapítvány