

Qendra Sociale Murialdo

The Qendra Sociale Murialdo (QSM) was founded in 1995 in Fier, Albania, on the initiative of some Italian missionaries of the Congregation of St. Joseph founded by St. Leonard Murialdo, to witness God's love for each man and the integral education of young people. It is a non-profit organization working in various fields including vocational training, education, recreation and social inclusion of Albanian youth, mainly in Fier and Durres.

Murialdo Social Center operates in the free exercise of functions useful for the good and interest of the community, promoting training and educational, scientific, socio-cultural, sports, welfare and spiritual activities, and contributes to a process of human and moral self-education, as a factor of freedom and responsibility for the social life of the Albanian National Community, expressed in terms of human development, education and training, vocational training, care and assistance programs for the integration of young people in life and charitable works.



QSM collaborates with Albanian regional and national public institutions, local civil society organizations, and both public and private international partners and donors (European Commission, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italian Ministry of Internal Affairs, Terres des Hommes, GIZ, ADA, Italian CARITAS, Italian Episcopal Conference, etc.).

What do we do?

Over the years, there have been many projects implemented in the country in which QSM has been a partner or lead applicant of the initiative. The main objective of QSM, which is always present within the projects, is the human and social promotion of young people and operates mainly in three areas of activity:



Multifunctional and Professional Centre, Vocational and Educational Training (VET) for youth (14-30 years old) in various fields such as mechanical, electrical, welding, computer, foreign languages, tailoring, plumbing, etc.



Youth sports center that hosts about 150 children and youths every day. The QSM has 3 soccer fields, 1 volleyball court, 3 basketball courts and several enclosed spaces for artistic and recreational activities. Currently, it is the only space in the city of Fier where sports and leisure time can be practiced totally free of charge.



Social inclusion of vulnerable groups such as Roma, refugees from Kosovo, children with disabilities, incarcerated youth, and victims of human trafficking (especially girls). Throughout its long experience, QSM has developed several projects in cooperation with international partners in order to improve the conditions of vulnerable groups in Fier and Durres areas and continue to work with a focus on these target groups in all kinds of proposed activities. Currently, QSM has a project for school enrollment and inclusion of Roma children, hosts weekly recreational activities for disabled children in public schools.

Main projects implemented:



"Vocational Skills Center"

- 1994 - present
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: ENGIM, RENOVABIS, USCCB
- Project Value: 1994 - 2.000.000.000 *italian lira*; 2020 - EUR 342.000
- **Objective:** Construction of the Center, purchase of tools and supplies for the management of educational activities. Construction of the second building for vocational training (2020)

"Integrated support programs began for Albanian minors in hardship situations, with particular attention to repatriated youths"

- 2000
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Italian Ministry of Social Affairs
- Project Value: 280.000.000 *italian lira*
- **Objective:** Help and reintegrate repatriated minors providing them with social and education activities

"Kosovo Emergency"

- 1999
- Co-Sponsor: ENGIM, CIAU, CRS, Italian and German organizations
- Project Value: 600.000.000 *italian lira*
- **Objective:** Fare food aid, leisure time guidance and integrating children into the local state schools for 3,000 refugees with the collaboration of 40 young volunteers

"Hello! Ready! Steady! Go!"

- 2002
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: European Community
- Project Value: EUR 28.500
- **Objective:** Raising awareness of the aspects of vulnerability that cause children to flee abroad or make them prey to human trafficking criminal organizations. Strengthening seven school libraries and creating an internet portal

"Integrated support programs began for Albanian minors in hardship situations"

- 2003-2005
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Italian Ministry of Social Affairs
- Project Value: *EUR 117.000*
- **Objective:** Help and reintegrate repatriated minors providing them with social and education activities



"It's your time"

- 2004-2006
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: World Bank
- Project Value: *EUR 4.950*
- **Objective:** Experimentation of a school integration method for children who have not completed elementary school

"Together Step by Step"

- 2005
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Usaid-Caaht
- Project Value: *USD 127.790*
- **Objective:** Prevention of human trafficking, support for civil society and vulnerable groups through educational activities, vocational training courses



"It's your time 2"

- 2005-2006
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: European Commission
- Project Value: *EUR 40.000*
- **Objective:** Development of an educational proposal for Albanian youth who have dropped out of school

"Youth with and towards Europe" (2007-2008)

- Co-Sponsor: European Community, *EUR 40.000*

"Vocational Training: a challenge for Collaboration" (2007-2008)

- Co-Sponsor: European Community, *EUR 40.000*

"Continuing on Together" (2007-2008)

Co-Sponsor: Usaid-Caaht, USD 30.000

"Friends in the Game, Collaborators in Class, Together in Life" (2010-2011)

Co-Sponsor: European Union, EUR 150.000



"Access to employment and business creation in south-central Albania with particular attention to disadvantaged groups"

- 2014-2017
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Italian Ministry of Social Affairs
- Project Value: EUR 800.000
- **Objective:** Microbusiness support, vocational training, update courses

"Inclusive education and high-quality services for children and young people with disabilities"

- 2014-2016
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: IADSA program and the Albanian Ministry of Economy
- Project Value: EUR 527.000
- **Objective:** Education, psychological and specialized attention, vocational training, Integration, recreational activities for disabled children

"Rinia Kreative: youth inventing the future"

- 2016-2018
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: IADSA program and the Albanian Ministry of Economy
- Project Value: EUR 502.000
- **Objective:** Promote the social inclusion of vulnerable youth and support their active participation in the social development of the community through artistic and educational activities, entrepreneurship promotion

"School, art and fun for the social inclusion of Roma children in Fier"

- 2016-2017
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: European Union
Subgranted by Save the Children
- Project Value: EUR 22.670
- **Objective:** School integration and capacity growth of the Roma children

"Improving Living Conditions and Reintegration of Migrant and Returned Children in Kosovo and Albania"

- 2017
- Fier, Drizë, Levan
- Co-Sponsor: Social Investors and developed by Terres des Hommes
- Project Value: EUR 9.290
- **Objective:** Capacity growth of the Roma people, Children education, parents support



"Improving the living conditions and reintegrating migrant children in Albania"

- January-March 2019
- Fier, Drizë, Levan
- Co-Sponsor: ADA and developed by Terres des Hommes
- Project Value: ALL 891.296
- **Objective:** Capacity growth of the Roma people, Children education, parents support

"Potenziamento laboratori di formazione professionale per giovani disoccupati del centro-sud Albania"

- 2018
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Caritas Antoniana
- Project Value: EUR 46.824
- **Objective:** Purchased instruments and supplies and VET activities management



***"C.A.U.S.E. Confiscated Assets used for Social Experimentations
Project "KeBuono!" Social Pastry: legality, inclusion and awareness
as ingredients for a better community"***

- 2018-2019
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: European Union, development by Partners Albania and ENGIM
- Project Value: *EUR 142.500*
- **Objective:** Countering crime and illegal activities through an innovative social business model for job training, social inclusion and community empowerment

"Step by step towards youth engagement"

- November 2018-July 2019
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: GIZ
- Project Value: *EUR 17.972*
- **Objective:** Improve the social inclusion and active participation of young marginalized people and youngsters returned from migration

"IntegraBUS: Let's bring integration on board!"

- 2019-2020
- Fier, Drizë, Levan, Mbrostar
- Co-sponsor: European Union subgranted by ANITARCU
- Project Value: *EUR 9.639*
- **Objective:** Integration and capacity growth of the Roma children through sport, artistic activities. Youth awareness.

"Rafforzamento dei servizi socio-educativi per bambini e giovani in condizioni di vulnerabilità nel centro-sud Albania"

- 2018-2021
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: CEI and developed by ENGIM
- Project Value: *EUR 46,565.19*
- **Objective:** Contribute to the improvement of education and social inclusion of Roma children and people with disabilities



"Albania, Direzione Lavoro: percorsi di orientamento e formazione professionale per donne e giovani in condizioni di svantaggio"

- 2019-2020
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Regione Lazio
- Project Value: *EUR 67.435,81*
- **Objective:** Vocational training, job placement, business internationalization and social inclusion

"IRMA-Improving access and (re)integration in education, employment and social services of Returned Migrants children, youth and families in Albania"

- April 2019-October 2020
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: GIZ and developed by Terres des Hommes
- Project Value: *EUR 94.421,50*
- **Objective:** Capacity growth of the Roma people, children education, parents support, youth empowerment, case management, incoming generation activities



"Ndërthurje: rights, skills and textures for the Roma women of Drize"

- January 2020-March 2021
- Fier, Drizë
- Co-Sponsor: Norway Embassy and development by Partners Albania
- Project Value: *EUR 32.881,72*
- **Objective:** Women's emancipation through activities such as textile courses, stimulation of economic activity

"Sustainable Socio-Economic Reintegration of Returned Migrants in Albania"

- December 2020-January 2023
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: GIZ and developed by Terres des Hommes
- Project Value: *EUR 133.946,40*
- **Objective:** Capacity growth of the Roma people, children education, parents support, youth empowerment, VET, case management, incoming generation activities

"Emergency and recovery support for vulnerable children in street situation and families affected by COVID-19 pandemic situation in Albania"

- Febbraio 2021-Novembre 2021
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: UE and developed by Terres des Hommes
- Project Value: *EUR 20.768,20*
- **Objective:** Strengthen different services for the protection of street children in the Area of Fier, case management

"Investing in the human capital of young workers in Fier. Qendra Sociale Murialdo answers the need for an inclusive and job-oriented education"

Committee on the Laity of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)



"Completamento della nuova struttura per la Formazione Professionale"

- 2021
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Caritas Ambrosiana
- Project Value: *EUR 20.000*
- **Objective:** Completion of the new school facility with classrooms equipped to conduct the practical workshops of vocational courses



"Spreading Social Enterprise: training, work and inclusion"

- May 2020-October 2024 ongoing
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: EU and developed by ENGIM
- Project Value: *EUR 133.946,40*
- **Objective:** Establishment and development of social enterprises



"Sustainable model of integrated employment & social care services in Municipality of Mallakaster"

- May 2022-April 2024 ongoing
- Mallakaster, Ballsh
- Co sponsor: EU and developed by Municipality of Mallakaster and HELP
- Project Value: *EUR 133.946,40*
- **Objective:** Support for vocational training activities, empowerment of community centers. Inclusion of vulnerable groups through employment and social services.



"Diritti, inclusione sociale e percorsi di inserimento per i giovani albanesi in condizione di disagio"

- 2022-present
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Fondo di Beneficenza San Paolo developed in partnership with ENGIM
- Project Value: *EUR 81.990*
- **Objective:** Promote the creation of job opportunities, with a focus on young people and women; foster socio-economic development and support the local productive fabric, particularly in the area of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Volunteer projects:

International voluntary service by Italian young people supporting social activities in Fier with Roma children, people with disabilities and youth from rural areas

Civil Services “Insieme Passo dopo Passo”

- 2014-2015
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Presidency of the Council of Minister, Youth Department

Civil Services “Kaskat e bardhë: ndërhyrje humanitare në zonat e krizës”

- 2015-2016
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Presidency of the Council of Minister, Youth Department

European Voluntary Service “Enjoy the difference”

- 2015-2016
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Erasmus+ Program,
- Project Value: 21,000€

European Voluntary Service “Long Live Diversity”

- 2016-2017
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Erasmus+Program
- Project Value: EUR 23.000

Civil Services “Kaskat e bardhë: Shqiperia 2018”

- 2018-2019
- Fier
- Co-Sponsor: Presidency of the Council of Minister, Youth Department

International voluntary service by Italian young people supporting social activities in Fier and Social development

Civil Peace Services Legaliteti, përfshirja dhe të drejtat për të luftuar dhe parandaluar dinamikën e dhunshme dhe kriminale në Shqipëri”

- 2019-2020
- Fier
- Co-sponsor: Presidency of the Council of Minister, Youth Department