

Fédération Européenne des Parents d'Enfants Déficients Auditifs European Federation of Parents of Hearing Impaired Children Europäischer Verband der Eltern Hörgeschädigter Kinder Federación Europea de Padres de Niños con Discapacidad Auditiva

Romanía

From July 13–19, 2024, the associations "Asculta Viata", "Koala" and "Fundatia Farmecul Tacerii" proudly continued their tradition of organizing the annual summer camp for children with hearing impairments and their parents at the Bivolarie School in Vicovul de Sus, Romania. This year's camp made possible through the support of "Fundatia Farmecul Tacerii", was notable for its inclusive approach, bringing together 53 children with diverse hearing abilities—ranging from varying levels of hearing impairment to fully developed functional hearing.

The camp emphasized bilingualism as a central theme, encouraging its adoption and practice. Participants represented a broad spectrum of language users, including children who communicated exclusively in Romanian, exclusively in Romanian Sign Language (RSL), or bilingually. This blend of RSL users and non-users created a unique environment of inclusion and mutual learning.

The camp was supported by a dedicated team of more than 20 professionals, including educators, RSL interpreters, speech pathologists, and doctors, who ensured a meaningful and engaging experience for all. Additionally, a professional film crew documented the week, producing a documentary that will soon be available to the public, to highlight the challenges and triumphs of children with hearing impairments.

Children participated in a variety of activities, such as glass painting, pastry making, gardening, hiking trips, and caricature workshops, which received enthusiastic feedback, earning a 4.87 out of 5 satisfaction rating. To further empower families, seminars addressed topics such as therapeutic options for children with hearing impairments, bilingualism, and the use of sign language, broadening awareness of resources and strategies to support children's development.

Together, we remain committed to this valuable tradition and to supporting children with hearing impairments and their families for many years to come.







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