

caritas hungarica

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE ACTIVITIES OF CARITAS HUNGARY IN 2025

Imprint

Annual Report 2025

Cover photo:
Tibor Vermes

Photos:
József Frigy, Zita Merényi / Magyar Kurír, Csaba Szabó, Tibor Vermes, dr. Hortenzia Máté-Sinkovics, Caritas staff members, volunteers and supporters

Graphics: Melinda Módos

Responsible Publisher: Richárd Zagyva

Printing: Virtuóz Kiadó és Nyomdaipari Kft.

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Person-to-Person Care

Our Mission

Caritas Hungary extends a helping hand to all those whose cry for help is often difficult to hear. As the official aid organization of the Catholic Church in Hungary, through our nationwide network we support disadvantaged people and families regardless of gender, age, denomination or origin.

Through personal presence, relief programs and our social institutions, we serve those in need in the spirit of love and the Gospel.

"We thank our partners and supporters for enabling us in 2025 to help tens of thousands of people in need together. Without this joint solidarity, it would not have been possible."


photo: Tibor Vermes


caritas
hungarica
TARJÁTOK KI SZÍVETEKET!
A KATOLIKUS KARITÁSZ
ELELMISZER ADOMÁNYA


hungarica


photo: Tibor Vermes


photo: Tibor Vermes


photo: Zita Merényi



photo: Tibor Vermes

Who We Are

Organizational structure

National Headquarters

Our Budapest center coordinates the organization's activities in Hungary and abroad, manages programs and ensures the efficient use of resources, while also taking direct part in humanitarian and social work in **8 main fields** of activity.

Diocesan Centers

In Hungary, diocesan Caritas centers **operate in 16 locations**, organizing and implementing charitable activities at local level, considering the specific characteristics and needs of each region.

Parish Groups

730 parishes, nearly **8,000** regular and around **1,500** occasional **volunteers** work for people facing hardship.

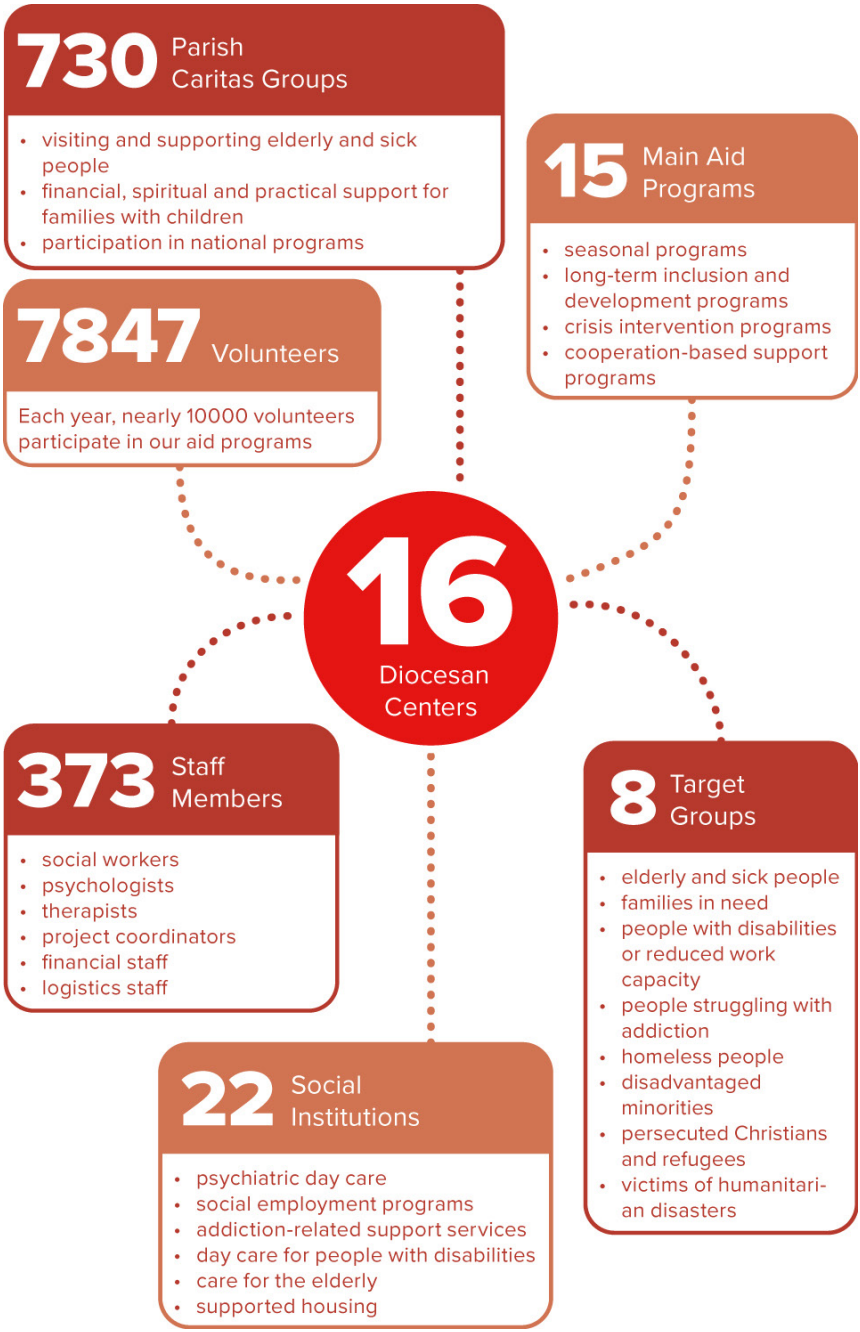

730 Parish Caritas Groups
• visiting and supporting elderly and sick people
• financial, spiritual and practical support for families with children
• participation in national programs
15 Main Aid Programs
• seasonal programs
• long-term inclusion and development programs
• crisis intervention programs
• cooperation-based support programs
7847 Volunteers
Each year, nearly 10000 volunteers participate in our aid programs
16 Diocesan Centers
373 Staff Members
• social workers
• psychologists
• therapists
• project coordinators
• financial staff
• logistics staff
8 Target Groups
• elderly and sick people
• families in need
• people with disabilities or reduced work capacity
• people struggling with addiction
• homeless people
• disadvantaged minorities
• persecuted Christians and refugees
• victims of humanitarian disasters
22 Social Institutions
• psychiatric day care
• social employment programs
• addiction-related support services
• day care for people with disabilities
• care for the elderly
• supported housing



photo: Tibor Vermes

Anita Herczegh, Richárd Zagyva, Fr. Pál Lőrincz OSB, Klaus Höhn

Organizational Changes

On 29 March 2025, the ceremonial presentation of the 112th Hungarian Heritage Award took place in the ceremonial hall of Ráday House in Budapest. The event held special significance for Caritas Hungary, as the aid organization was also among the award recipients, precisely at a time of transition.

After nearly two decades of dedicated service, Bishop **Antal Spányi** stepped down from his role as Episcopal President of Caritas Hungary. The episcopal leadership duties were taken over by Auxiliary Bishop **Szabolcs Benedek Fekete** of Szombathely.

There was also a change in the position of National Director: **Gábor Écsy** concluded his many years of service on 30 April, and from 1 May his successor became **Richárd Zagyva**. By decision of the Hungarian Catholic Bishops' Conference, **Fr. Pál Lőrincz OSB** was entrusted with the role of spiritual director.

We owe gratitude and thanks to the outgoing leaders for their devoted service and sacrificial work for the growth of the organization.

Special thanks are due to **Anita Herczegh** and **Klaus Höhn**, goodwill ambassadors of Caritas Hungary, whose committed work and support make a significant contribution to the fulfilment of the organization's mission.



Szabolcs Benedek Fekete



Antal Spányi and Gábor Écsy

Diocesan Caritas Centers

The Diocesan Caritas Centers are essential and autonomous pillars of charitable service. As independent legal entities, they carry out their mission responsibly and in accordance with local needs. Their work is built on a dual focus: on the one hand, they coordinate, support, and provide professional guidance to the parish Caritas groups, thereby strengthening the Church's helping presence within local communities; on the other hand, they respond to local social challenges by offering professional, targeted assistance to those in need.

In the field of social care and support, the diocesan centers operate institutions and run programs that provide long-term, personalized assistance. Their activities are carried out in the spirit of Christian charity, offering security, stability, and hope to all who, due to their life circumstances, require support.



22+
institutions



208
Staff members working in our 22+ institutions



200 646
People in need assisted throughout the year



48 922
Households supported throughout the year



730
Caritas groups = Parish-based volunteer groups



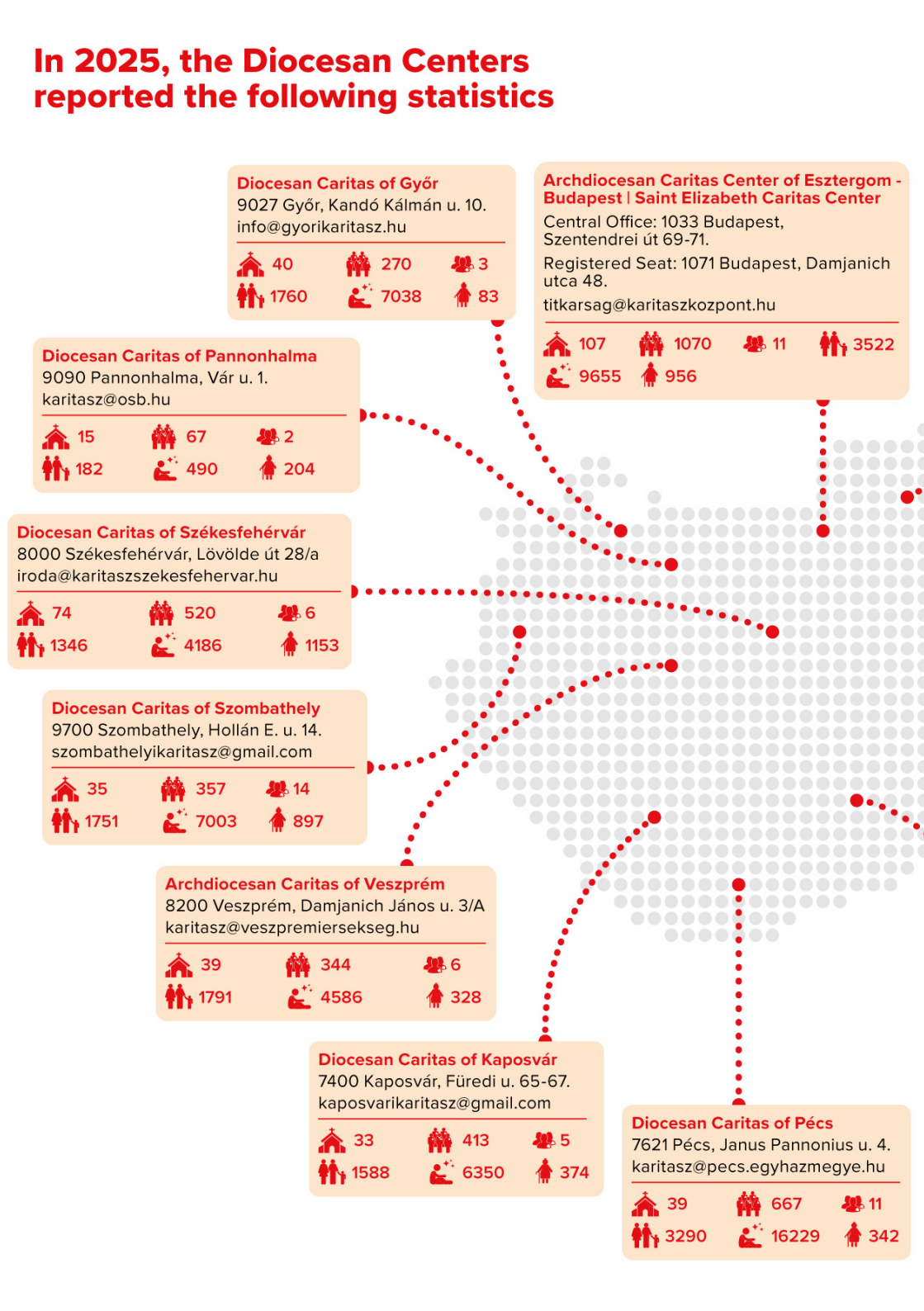
7 770
Elderly people visited by parish groups

Institutions of the Caritas Hungary network

Archdiocesan Caritas Centre of Eger	RÉV Addiction Support Service
Diocesan Caritas of Kaposvár	Saint Anne House Saint Lazarus House
Caritas Hungary of the Diocese of Pécs	House of Hope (DOMUS SPEI)
Diocesan Caritas of Székesfehérvár	RÉV Addiction Support Service Saint Christopher House Caritas House
Diocesan Caritas of Szombathely	RÉV Addiction Support Service Edith Győrvári Family Support Center Szikla Community Psychiatric Care Center Hársfa House Magvető Study Center Saint Anne House Lavender House Saint Paul Social Center Saint James Social Center Saint Elizabeth Social Center Holy Family Social Center Saint Anne Orchard Castellum Tea House
Diocesan Caritas of Vác	RÉV Addiction Support Service
Veszprém	Pápa Presence Point Veszprém Presence Point
National Centre	RÉV Addiction Support Service 21 Presence Points in Emerging Settlements Sure Start Children's house in Patapoklosi Budapest Integration Center

Across the country, **730 local groups** and around **9,500 volunteers** work to support people in need in the spirit of love and solidarity.

In 2025, the Diocesan Centers reported the following statistics



Diocesan Caritas of Győr
9027 Győr, Kandó Kálmán u. 10.
info@gyorikaritasz.hu

40 | 270 | 3
1760 | 7038 | 83

Archdiocesan Caritas Center of Esztergom - Budapest | Saint Elizabeth Caritas Center
Central Office: 1033 Budapest, Szentendrei út 69-71.
Registered Seat: 1071 Budapest, Damjanich utca 48.
titkarsag@karitaszkozpont.hu

107 | 1070 | 11 | 3522
9655 | 956

Diocesan Caritas of Pannonhalma
9090 Pannonhalma, Vár u. 1.
karitasz@osb.hu

15 | 67 | 2
182 | 490 | 204

Diocesan Caritas of Székesfehérvár
8000 Székesfehérvár, Lövölde út 28/a
iroda@karitaszszekesfehervar.hu

74 | 520 | 6
1346 | 4186 | 1153

Diocesan Caritas of Szombathely
9700 Szombathely, Hollán E. u. 14.
szombathelyikaritasz@gmail.com

35 | 357 | 14
1751 | 7003 | 897

Archdiocesan Caritas of Veszprém
8200 Veszprém, Damjanich János u. 3/A
karitasz@veszpremiersekseg.hu

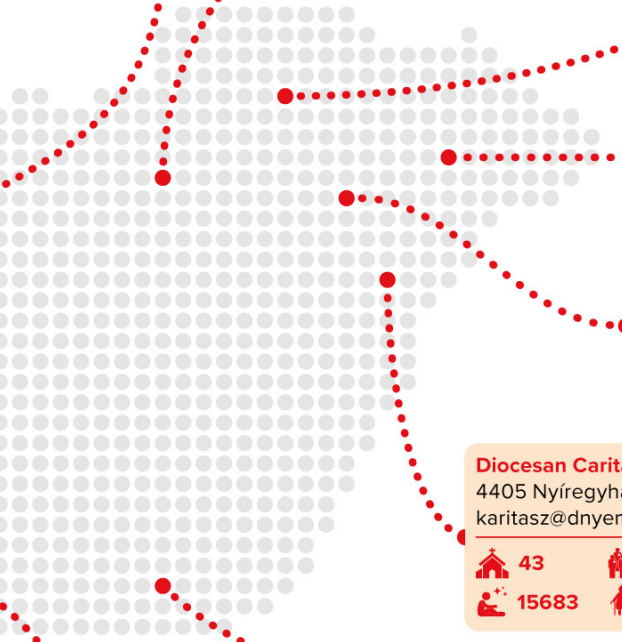
39 | 344 | 6
1791 | 4586 | 328

Diocesan Caritas of Kaposvár
7400 Kaposvár, Füredi u. 65-67.
kaposvarikaritasz@gmail.com

33 | 413 | 5
1588 | 6350 | 374

Diocesan Caritas of Pécs
7621 Pécs, Janus Pannonius u. 4.
karitasz@pecs.egyhazmegye.hu

39 | 667 | 11
3290 | 16229 | 342



Diocesan Caritas of Vác
2600 Vác, Hattyú u. 1.
caritas@vaciegyhazmegye.hu

125 | 1120 | 16
1564 | 6256 | 140

Archdiocesan Caritas of Eger
3300 Eger, Aradi u. 6.
eger.caritas@gmail.com

62 | 993 | 8
19595 | 99537 | 1408

Diocesan Caritas of Miskolc
3526 Miskolc Szeles u. 59.
karitasz@mi.gorogkatolikus.hu

10 | 80 | 4
400 | 600 | 30

Diocesan Caritas of Nyíregyháza
4400 Nyíregyháza, Bethlen G. u. 5.
karitasz@nyirgorkat.hu

16 | 144 | 7
1900 | 4500 | 320

Archdiocesan Caritas of Hajdúdorog
4025 Debrecen, Petőfi tér 8.
karitasz@hd.gorogkatolikus.hu

20 | 150 | 2
250 | 2500 | 80

Diocesan Caritas of Debrecen-Nyíregyháza
4405 Nyíregyháza, Tábor utca 1/E
karitasz@dnyem.hu

43 | 800 | 6 | 3920
15683 | 708

Diocesan Caritas of Szeged-Csanád
6723 Szeged, Csongor tér 8.
szegedikaritasz@gmail.com

40 | 500 | 9
2500 | 7500 | 349

Archdiocesan Caritas of Kalocsa-Kecskemét
6300 Kalocsa, Szentháromság tér 1.
karitasz@asztrik.hu

32 | 352 | 0 | 3563
8523 | 398

Legend

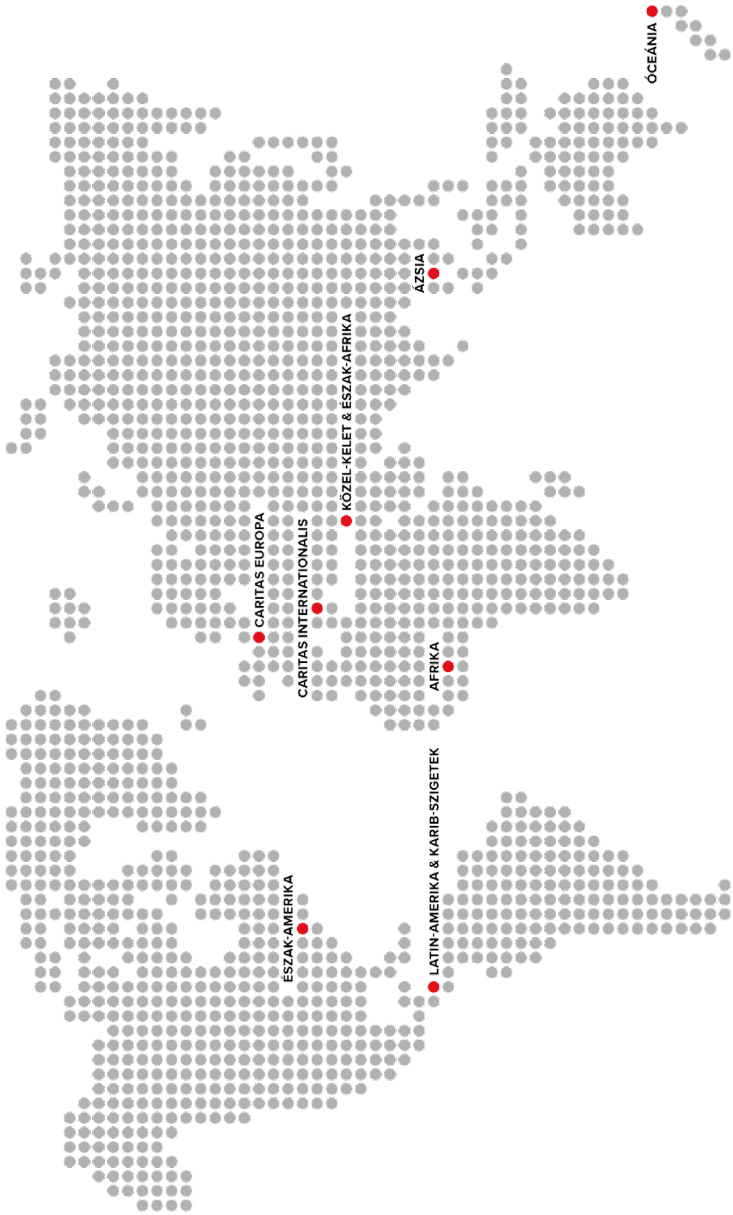
- Number of Caritas groups
- Number of staff members
- Number of people supported throughout the year
- Total number of registered volunteers
- Number of households supported throughout the year
- Number of elderly people visited by parish groups

Donation Shops

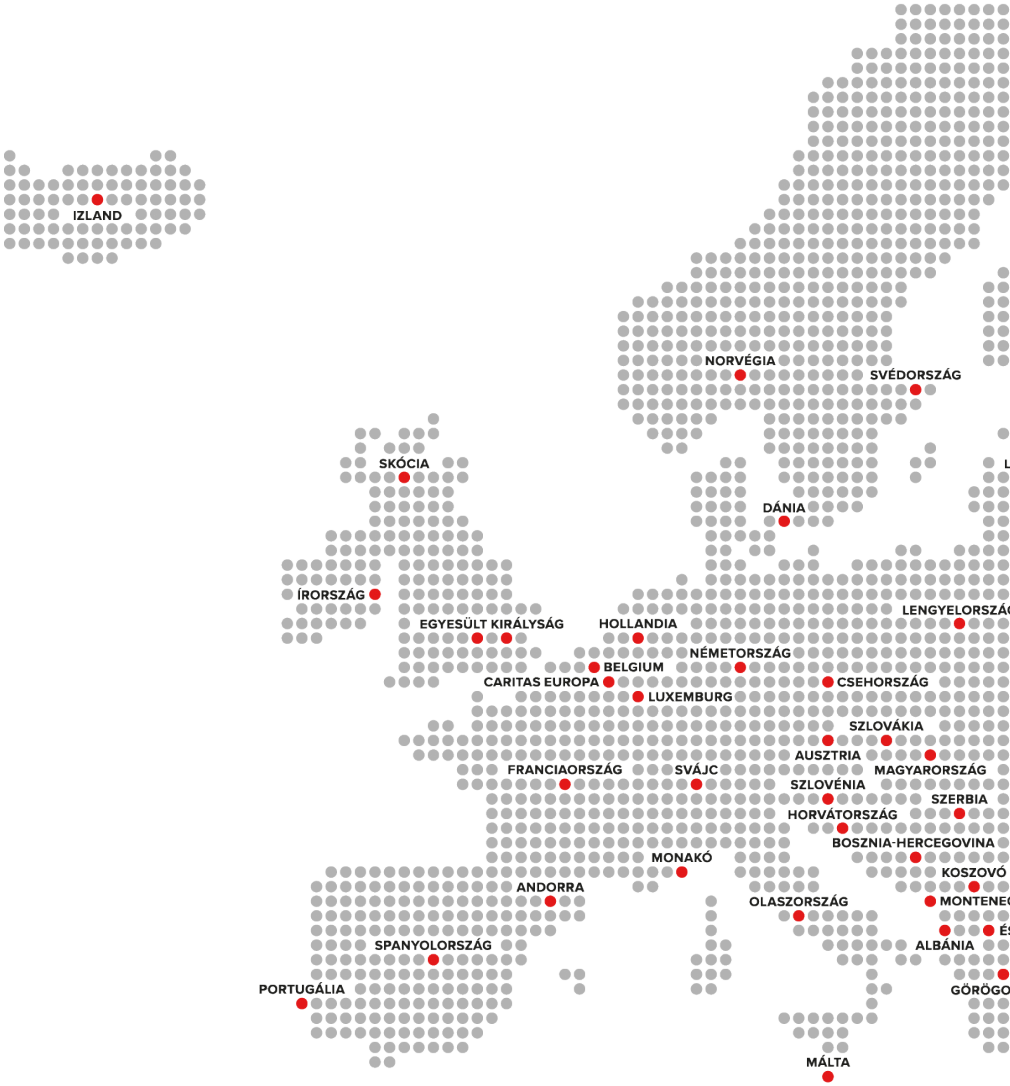
Budapest	CaritasPONT Donation Shop
Csömör	CaritasPONT – Donation Point of the Saint Rita Caritas Group
Debrecen	Greek Catholic Service Point Caring Love Social and Donation Shop
Fót	Donation Shop of the Saint Elizabeth Caritas Foundation of Fót
Miskolc	CaritasPONT
Nyíregyháza	Saint Luke Caritas Shop
Pécs	Caritas Donation Shop
Székesfehérvár	Alba Caritas Hungarica Foundation – Caritas Shop
Törökbálint	CaritasPONT – Auchan shopping arcade
Vác	Donation Shop
Vámospércs	Caring Love Social and Donation Shop

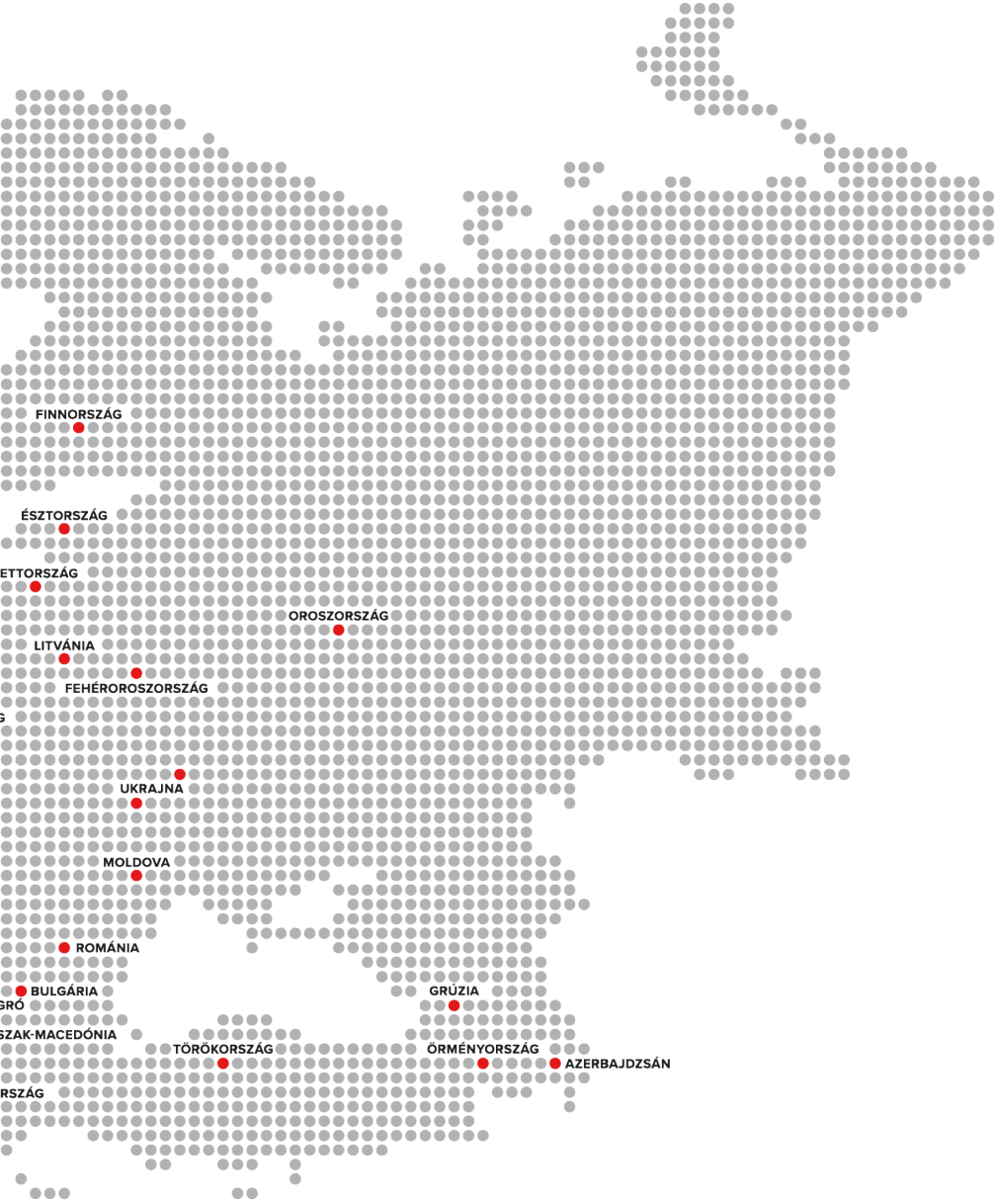
caritas hungarica KARITÁSZPONT caritas hungarica

Caritas Internationalis



Caritas Europa




FINNORSZÁG
ÉSZTORSZÁG
ETTORSZÁG
OROSZORSZÁG
LITVÁNIA
FEHÉROROSZORSZÁG
G
UKRAJNA
MOLDOVA
ROMÁNIA
BULGÁRIA
GRÓ
GRÚZIA
SZAK-MACEDÓNIA
TÖRÖKORSZÁG
ÖRMÉNYORSZÁG
AZERBAJDZSÁN
RSZÁG

International Relations

Caritas Internationalis

A global network currently bringing together 162 Catholic development, relief and social service organizations across seven regions of the world. It operates as the official charitable organization of the Catholic Church under the supervision of the Pope, with its headquarters in the Vatican.

Caritas Europa

The European organization unites 49 members from 46 countries. Its main task is to strengthen social justice and reduce poverty across the continent. Its headquarters are in Brussels.

Caritas Hungary

International assistance

- Humanitarian support for victims of natural disasters or war *(Ukraine, Myanmar, Transylvania, the Philippines)*
- Assistance to Hungarian communities living beyond the borders and facing hardship *(Transcarpathia, Vojvodina, Transylvania)*

International cooperation

- Summer camps in Hungary for Armenian children
- Regional cooperation to support the reception of refugees arriving from Ukraine




1356
ADOMÁNYVONAL
caritas
POLSKA


1356
KATOLIKUS KARITÁSZ
CARITAS HUNGARICA



photo: Caritas Subotica



photo: Tibor Vermes



photo: Csaba Szabó

The Mission of Caritas Hungary in Practice

We help in 8 main areas of activity

"...while we have time, let us do good to all..." (Galatians 6:1–10)

Caritas is not merely a relief organization, but a living example of love and care, which improves the lives of tens of thousands of people every year through its programs. Through our activities, we respond effectively to the complex challenges of society and offer tangible solutions for those in need.



Elderly people and the sick



Families in need



People with disabilities and reduced working capacity



People with addictions



Homeless people



Disadvantaged minorities



Persecuted Christians and refugees



Victims of humanitarian disasters

Strong Families, Strong Future

"Families are the cradles of the future of humanity." Pope Leo XIV

Our organization regularly supports **families in difficult situations and single parents** through, among other things


financial, in-kind and spiritual support,


social counselling services,


self-sufficiency support programs,


children's camps,


back-to-school support,


Easter and Christmas aid campaigns,


crisis assistance.

For the future with children

With the aim of creating opportunities, we provide study scholarships, after-school learning support, school supplies and leisure programs to support the development and talent care of disadvantaged children.



photo: Zita Merényi



photo: Tibor Vermes

D(o)well Housing Support Program

The aim of the program is to support families and individuals who **face a housing crisis**, for example when their home becomes uninhabitable, they live in life-threatening conditions, or their deteriorating health places them in crisis.

Depending on arising needs, we help in the following areas:

Ensuring financial and housing stability
- settlement of utility debts
- easing arrears in common charges and rent
- housing retention support provided on a social basis

Restoring the safety of homes
- urgent restoration and preservation work
- elimination of life-threatening housing situations
- creation of basic housing conditions

Managing health-related crisis situations
- creation of a special living environment
- establishment of a sterile room
- accessibility improvements or health-condition-based adaptations

In line with the core principles of Caritas Hungary, all interventions are **carried out in close cooperation with the supported families**. Our goal is for those affected to become active participants in the solution process and to create a sustainable housing situation in the long term.

Results in 2025

- 181 families supported
- Housing for nearly 600 people was preserved or made safe

Corporate cooperation opportunities

We welcome and appreciate the support of corporate partners in implementing the program.

Possible forms of cooperation include

- **donation of building materials**
- **professional planning or implementation support**
- **financial contribution**
- **team-building volunteer programs**

Through these contributions, together we can make the homes of the most vulnerable families **safe, sustainable and worthy of human dignity.**

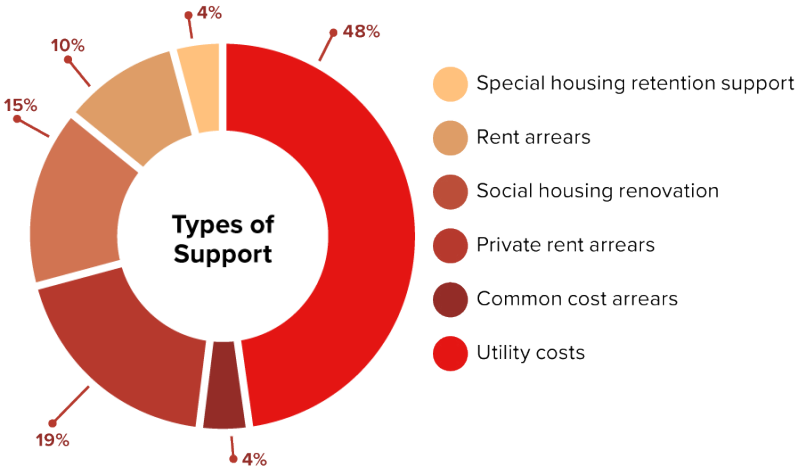






photo: Tibor Vermes

Family Gardens / Lively Gardens Program

A Chance for Self-Reliance

Seeds and seedlings for a sustainable life

A key goal of our **Lively Gardens** self-sufficiency program is to enable families in difficult situations to grow vegetables and fruits in their own gardens. The program actively strengthens their self-sustainability and self-care. In 2025, the initiative reached **around 3,000 families in 351 settlements** with seeds, seedlings and gardening advice.

Through our **Family Gardens** program, **289 families in Baranya and Heves** counties were involved in household gardening. This year, 4 families were able to sell their own chemical-free vegetables through the Pécs Basket Community.

We strive to minimise the use of chemicals.

New development in 2025

Following the positive experiences of the **model garden** in Kisszentmárton, with European Union funding we established demonstration gardens in both Téseny and Piskó, covering a total of 2,000 square meters.

Corporate involvement

We need seeds, seedlings, gardening tools, financial support or volunteer work to develop the self-sufficiency, sustainability and environmental awareness of the most disadvantaged families. Together with them, we can build a more hopeful future.



photo: Tibor Vermes


photo: Csaba Szabó


photo: Tibor Vermes


photo: Tibor Vermes


photo: Zita Merényi


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Physical and Spiritual Care for Our Vulnerable Fellow Human Beings

"A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned."
Message of Pope Francis for the 29th World Day of the Sick

Support for the elderly and for people living with emotional difficulties or disabilities

We provide support and attention through
- home visits
- visits to the sick in institutions
- care services
- provision of medical aids
- medication support
- spiritual care

Elderly people
Szombathely *(Saint Anne House),*
Kaposvár *(Saint Anne House)*

People with disabilities
Székesfehérvár *(Saint Christopher House)*

Psychiatric patients and people with reduced working capacity
Vásárosmiske *(Lavender House)*,
Kemenespálfa *(Saint Paul Social Center)*,
Egyházashetye *(Saint James Social Center)*,
Nagylengyel *(Holy Family Social Center)*,
Szombathely *(Szikla Community Psychiatric Care Center; Hársfa House),*
Kőszeg *(Saint Elizabeth Social Center)*



photo: Tibor Vermes

Medical Mission – Health for Everyone

"Children born beyond the borders should also have the chance for a healthy adulthood." - With this mission, Caritas Hungary launched its **Medical Mission preventive screening program**, which for more than eight years has been helping Hungarian communities in the Carpathian Basin, mainly in Transcarpathia and Vojvodina.

What began as an eight-member volunteer team has now grown into a network of **more than one hundred professionals**. Specialist doctors, residents, medical students, physiotherapists and technical assistants travel in groups of 16–18 to set up temporary "clinics" in Hungarian kindergartens, schools and community spaces, where access to healthcare is often limited.

Screening examinations

The mission includes, among others, the following examinations:

For children
- eye screening
- orthopedic examinations
- dental check-ups

For adults
- blood pressure and blood sugar measurement
- ECG examination
- gynecological screening
- oral cancer screening

These examinations not only serve to preserve health but also provide an opportunity for Hungarians living beyond the borders to **speak with doctors in their mother tongue.**

Experience and developments in 2025

In 2025, the war situation in Transcarpathia made everyday life significantly more difficult. For many families, even basic medical check-ups became inaccessible, and the uncertainty also affected the mental condition of children.

At the same time, the mission continued to develop
- **preventive training for teachers** continues, enabling them to recognize cases requiring further examination
- **physiotherapists also take part** in screenings and teach corrective exercises to children
- new ophthalmological tools support **more accurate diagnostics and prevention**

1,900
children and adults examined

332
eyeglasses

152
orthopedic insoles

Results in 2025

- Residents of **16 settlements** were examined
- **12 visits beyond the border** took place
- **Nearly 1,900 patients** took part in screenings
- **332 pairs of glasses** were made with Caritas support
- **152 children** received orthopedic insoles

The screenings also sent an important signal that certain risks must be monitored already in childhood: **13 children were found to have high blood sugar levels, and 5 young people had high blood pressure.**

Corporate cooperation opportunities

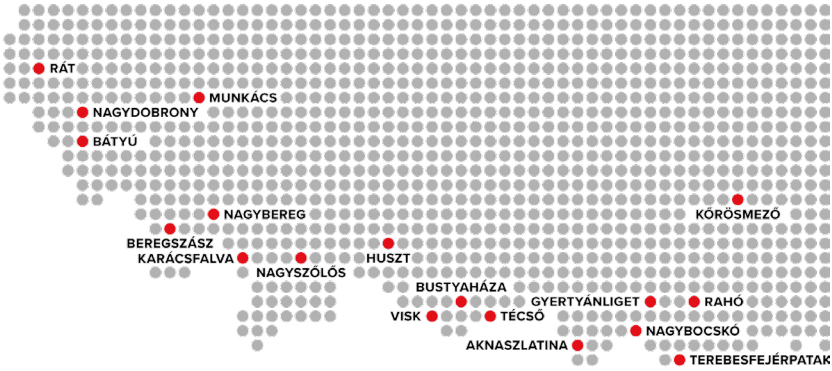
Corporate partners can also join the program through donations of medical devices and medicines, professional knowledge and networking support, financial contributions and volunteer involvement. **Those who join this mission truly offer the chance of a fuller life.**



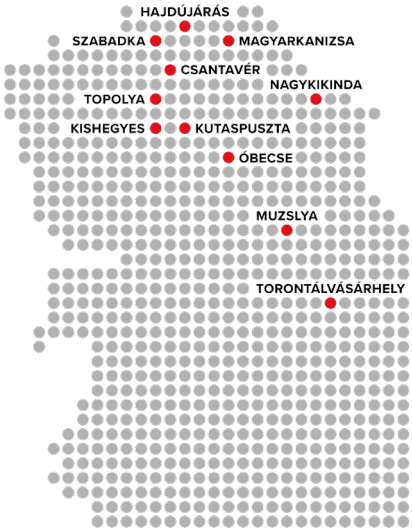
photo: Tibor Vermes



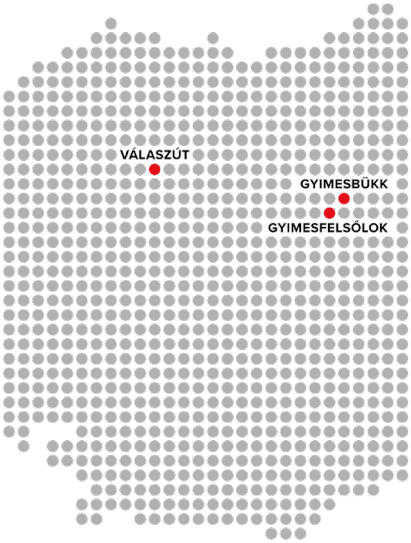




Settlements reached in Transcarpathia



Settlements reached in Vojvodina



Settlements reached in Transylvania

Rapid Help in Times of Trouble

Support for victims of natural and humanitarian disasters

In the event of floods, earthquakes, wars and other disasters, Caritas provides immediate help. We supply non-perishable food, hot meals, hygiene packages and clothing, and support long-term reconstruction.

International solidarity

- Through the global Caritas network, we take part in international humanitarian aid.
- We support war refugees arriving from Ukraine and communities living in crisis situations in distant regions.

Our disaster response work in 2025

- HUF 3 million in support for restoring areas of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County affected by July **storm damage**, in cooperation with the Archdiocesan Caritas Center of Eger
- HUF 11.6 million in support for victims of the **earthquake** in Southeast Asia
- HUF 5 million in emergency aid for victims of the **earthquake** in Central Philippines (Cebu Province)
- HUF 20 million in support for **flood victims** in Székely Land
- 60 tons of in-kind aid provided to **war-stricken** Transcarpathia





photo: Ferenc Tibodi





photos: Tibor Vermes

Open Door for Refugees

Budapest Integration Center

We directly support the integration of refugees arriving in Hungary. In 2025, most of those we supported came from Ukraine, and we assisted them through a wide range of services:

- social administration and individual counselling
- Hungarian as a foreign language courses
- labor market integration training and individual consultations
- support for access to health screenings
- civic and intercultural workshops
- MHPSS club sessions and individual consultations for adults
- summer camps for children

New developments in 2025

Altogether, we provided help to 393 refugees.

Throughout the year, we did everything we could to tailor our services to the needs of our clients. As a result, we launched several new initiatives, including six **English-language groups** at different levels. Within the **MHPSS club** sessions, in addition to art therapy, we also organized a **music therapy group** and offered the opportunity for **individual consultations**. It is particularly noteworthy that most of these program were already led by Ukrainian staff members.



photo: Tibor Vermes







photos: Tibor Vermes



Emerging Settlements

Since 2018, Caritas Hungary has been implementing diagnosis-based development program built on the **presence methodology**. From conception to employment, the program accompanies people living in Hungary's most disadvantaged settlements with steady, active and compassionate presence, so that solutions may replace problems that have seemed unsolvable for decades, and neediness may be replaced by sustainable self-reliance.

The overall goal of the **presence** approach is to improve the social and infrastructural provision of underdeveloped settlements and to bring about positive, forward-looking changes in the lives of the people and communities living there.

The **Presence Program** offers comprehensive solutions to the problems of disadvantaged communities: from early childhood development through school support and vocational training all the way to employment, healthcare and housing. Caritas Hungary currently participates as an implementing organization in **21 settlements. In Baranya County:** Bogádmindszent, Drávaiványi, Kisszentmárton, Lúzsok, Patapoklosi, Piskó, Somogyapáti, Sósvertike, Téseny, Vejti. **In Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County:** Ároktő, Gesztely, Girincs, Hejőszalonta, Kesznyéten, Ónod, Sály. **In Heves County:** Erdőkövesd, Hevesaranyos, Szentdomonkos, Tarnalelesz.

New developments in 2025

- **In Patapoklosi**, we support families raising children aged 0–3 through the maintenance of a **Sure Start Children's House**
- We established a **youth learning center in Téseny**
- Our **music talent development program** was successfully completed **in Drávaiványi and Bogádmindszent**
- In Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County, our program expanded to **5 additional new settlements:** Ároktő, Hejőszalonta, Gesztely, Ónod and Sály
- Through our occupational socialization program, we enabled **13 people to obtain a driving license**
- With the help of our organization, **14 people obtained social assistant qualifications** and **21 obtained cleaning technology qualifications**
- We created **chemical-free model gardens** in Piskó and Téseny



photo: Nóra P. Tóth

Giving Human Dignity to Homeless People

"Instead of contempt or expectations, we must approach those in need with love and acceptance." Richárd Zagyva, National Director of Caritas Hungary

We provide support to **people experiencing homelessness** in everyday life through hot meals, clothing, spiritual support and help in finding work. Our program includes regular food and clothing donations, supportive conversations, spiritual care, temporary shelter during crisis periods, and housing support within the emergency assistance program.

Saint Lazarus House, Kaposvár

The institution supports homeless men who would like to return to the world of work but are unable to do so on their own. It can

accommodate 5–6 people at a time and helps residents step out of their previous life situation, regain their self-respect and prepare for independent living

Saint Elizabeth Homeless Tea Route, Szeged

As part of the Tea Route service, which has a history of more than twenty years, from November to March local Caritas staff travel through the city by car, visiting public areas where homeless people live. They not only bring hot food and tea but also offer encouraging conversation and personal attention. The Tea Route operates with volunteers: secondary school students, university students and adults can all join the service.

New institution under our management in 2025

House of Hope – DOMUS SPEI, Pécs

In the daytime warming shelter of the institution maintained by the Caritas Hungary of the Diocese of Pécs, there is capacity for 75 people, while its night shelter is licensed to care for 33 people between 1 November and 30 April. The primary goal of its services is to meet basic human needs such as rest, community life, meals, hygiene, cleaning and replacing clothing, safekeeping of valuables and the management of social affairs. This is followed by social support work using professional methods to promote clients' social reintegration.


photo: Tibor Vermes

RÉV – Hope. Life. Change. The Center of Hope for People with Addictions

The RÉV Addiction Support Service of Caritas Hungary helps those struggling with addiction, whether alcohol, drugs, gambling or other forms of dependency. Support also extends to family members and prevention.

Our services

- Individual and group counselling
- Psychological consultation and crisis intervention
- Couples and family therapy
- Youth prevention programs
- “Diversion” and rehabilitation support

RÉV centers are available nationwide and work with multidisciplinary expert teams to offer hope and a new chance to every person in need **in Újbuda and Óbuda in Budapest, as well as in Eger, Kecskemét, Székesfehérvár, Szekszárd, Szombathely and Vác.**

Further information: karitasz.hu/rev



We provided help to
more than 6,000
people in 2025.

In 2025 the following groups were available in the institution

- Creative arts therapy
- Expressive arts therapy
- Preventive and informative service (“diversion”) group
- Relatives’ group
- Gambling addiction group
- GAMMA Gt. self-help group
- Good That You Are Here! group
- Life State group
- Storytelling group
- Grief processing group
- Creative Self Group



photo: Zita Merényi





photos: Tibor Vermes



Our National Programs

Our Main Campaigns - so that we can do even more for others



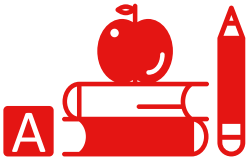
Non-perishable Love Lent Food Drive

Lenten non-perishable food collection



Summer Awaits Program!

Camp program



Joyful Beginnings Back-to-School campaign

Back-to-school support



Open Your Hearts!

Advent solidarity and relief program



Non-perishable Love Lent Food Drive

Lenten non-perishable food collection

During Lent, Caritas Hungary is the only organization to organize a nationwide collection of non-perishable food to support families and people in need who are facing hardship. The goal of the initiative is that, through the joint efforts of believers and donors, help essential for daily subsistence may reach as many deprived people as possible.

In 2025, **100 tons** of non-perishable food were donated during the collection. From these donations, we assembled food packages which our volunteers delivered to those in need so that food could reach as many family tables as possible at Easter.

How can you contribute to the collection?

- flour
- sugar
- rice
- pasta
- semolina
- oil
- canned food
- instant soup
- UHT milk
- biscuits
- sweets
- coffee, tea

Food Rescue in the Spirit of Awareness

From 2022 until the end of 2025, Caritas Hungary rescued nearly **2,300 tons** of food worth approximately **HUF 2.1 billion**, from which **5,500–6,000 people in need** benefited annually.

The goal of the food rescue program, which has been operating for more than a decade, is to ensure that edible food leftover at retail chains, companies, smaller shops and bakeries does not become waste but instead becomes help for those in need. The initiative serves both to support the deprived and to promote responsible, conscious resource use.

Corporate cooperation

Companies can connect to the helping work of Caritas by establishing collection points, launching internal campaigns, cause-related marketing or offering warehouse stock. Initiatives of the “buy one and pass one on” type can also involve customers in giving. Through such cooperation, non-perishable foods and household products can reach those in need. In this way, companies, their employees and their customers can experience together the power of responsible help.

Summer Awaits Program!

Camps for disadvantaged children

"I saw so many wonders here, more than in my whole life..." - Roland (9)

In its summer camps, Caritas Hungary provides experience-rich **recreation and developmental programs** for children whose families would not be able to arrange meaningful holiday activities on their own. The camps are organized both as day camps and residential camps, offering opportunities for rest, community experiences and personal development.

The programs include sports activities, handicrafts, excursions and skills development sessions, all of which help make the summer meaningful, safe and memorable for children.

The impact of the camps

- 4,000 children were able to attend camp
- They gained community experiences and opportunities for self-development
- Close cooperation developed with volunteers and supporters

Corporate involvement

Companies can connect to the camps by donating **toys and sports equipment, or by organizing thematic programs or educational sessions**. Together, we can provide experiences for children who would otherwise have no opportunity to relax, recharge and grow together with their peers. Through such cooperation, companies and their employees can experience directly that an offering is not merely relief, it is opportunity. A donation is not only momentary help but also a long-term investment.





photos: Tibor Vermes



photo: Tibor Vermes

Joyful Beginnings Back-to-School campaign

Back-to-school support for children in difficult circumstances

The nationwide back-to-school program of Caritas Hungary helps ensure that every child can sit down at a school desk in September with equal opportunities. Through the initiative, **we support families in difficult situations with school supplies, essential equipment for starting the school year, and vouchers for the purchase of educational materials, thereby easing the significant financial burden of the start of the school year.**

The goal of this joint effort is opportunity creation: Caritas accompanies children from the youngest age up to those about to choose a career, supporting their development and studies through learning centers, scholarship-type programs and talent development initiatives.

Our results in 2025

- More than **3,000 children** received back-to-school packages
- **Hundreds of schools and communities** joined the initiative
- **The cooperation of companies and private individuals** made the program possible

Corporate involvement

Companies can join the program through donations of **school supplies, sports equipment or clothing, financial support, corporate volunteering and joint campaigns.** Through this cooperation, children in difficult situations can begin the school year properly equipped, and therefore with confidence, while the burden on families is also eased.



photo: Tibor Vermes

Open Your Hearts!

Advent solidarity and relief program

Christmas miracle for those in need too

Every year, Caritas Hungary helps thousands of families and elderly people living alone so that they can spend the holidays in warmth and dignity. During the campaign, we collect **firewood, stoves, non-perishable food, warm clothing and gifts, organize festive programs**, and raise awareness of the situation of people living on the margins of society.

Results from last year

- We helped more than 50,000 people
- Thousands of gift packages and food donations were prepared
- Corporate and individual donors joined

Angel–Bundle Program

A gift for every child!

Christmas gift collection for children in need

We deliver gift packages collected by private individuals, families, schools and companies to the most deprived families, children's homes and poor communities before the holiday.

Results from last year

- More than 20,000 children received an Angel–Bundle gift
- Every package was prepared with personal care and attention



photo: Tibor Vermes



photo: Tibor Vermes

A Million Stars for the Poor

Solidarity and shared responsibility

The goal of the solidarity campaign is to draw attention to the poor living around us. In 2025, in Mór, the light of the “one million” candles symbolized both hope and shared responsibility toward those in need.

Cultural innovation in 2025

“Lights of Hope” – Charity Christmas Concert

Organized by Caritas Hungary, the concert held in Saint Stephen’s Basilica became a highlight of the Advent season, carrying the message of community, giving and hope. On the festive evening, Christmas melodies were performed with the participation of well-known artists (**Attila Dolhai and Luca Dolhai, János Csík, Bíborka Bocskor, Viktória Rudnik and the Berka Ensemble**), and the proceeds of the concert support the development of children in need.

Corporate involvement

Companies can join the winter relief program of Caritas through financial support, warehouse stock donations, collections of non-perishable food and gifts, or by involving their employees. In this way, a company can become a true solver of winter crisis situations. The Angel–Bundle Program and joint packing occasions provide an opportunity for corporate communities to become actively involved in helping, thus becoming the “angels” of Caritas. This is not merely a donation, but an investment in a more humane future.

Volunteers

"It is a wonderful gift, a grace, if we have recognized that the tangible, life-scented practice of merciful love is our mission, our task. Jesus Christ showed us that true strength lies not in power and wealth, but in compassion and in standing by another human being." Richárd Zagyva, National Director, Caritas Hungarica Award Ceremony, 2025

The role of our volunteers

The driving force behind the helping work of Caritas Hungary is the sacrificial service of its volunteers. Across the country, **in 16 diocesan Caritas centers**, in 730 groups, nearly 8,000 regular and around 1,500 occasional volunteers carry out charitable work, supporting those in need day after day

The service of our volunteers is multifaceted

- **Relief work:** collecting food and clothing donations, delivering financial support to those in need
- **Care:** visiting and personally supporting elderly people, the sick and people with disabilities
- **Community building:** organizing cultural and community programs that strengthen belonging and social solidarity
- **Disaster response:** rapid assistance during natural disasters and participation in restoration work

The committed presence of our volunteers makes it possible for help to reach even the smallest communities, and for the service of Caritas to mean real, tangible hope for people in difficult situations. Thank you for your dedication!






photo: József Frigy

Caritas Junior Program

The Volunteers of the Future

Caritas Junior is the child and youth movement of Caritas Hungary, built on Gospel values, which considers community building and character formation as important as charitable action itself.

Our aim is to involve the younger generation in charitable activities and to give them the opportunity to experience, already in childhood and youth, **the joy and significance of serving others**.

Within the groups, young people become familiar with the culture of helping through playful, experience-based programs adapted to their age group, while actively contributing to supporting those in need.

Our current Caritas Junior groups

The Caritas Junior groups of Caritas Hungary operating in several dioceses provide young people with the opportunity to take part in charitable service within a community and in mutual support. The groups we currently run are as follows:

Archdiocesan Caritas Center of Eger

- Adács – 15 members (operating since 2013)
- Mezőnyárád Caritas Junior Group, Mezőnyárád – 13 members (since 2017)
- Saint Martin Caritas Junior, Pétervására – 22 members (since 2023)

Diocesan Caritas of Kaposvár
Last Supper Parish, Tab – 2 groups, 45 members in total (since 2023)

Diocesan Caritas of Székesfehérvár
- Mór – 13 members (since 2025)
- Magyaralmás – 7 members (since 2025)

Diocesan Caritas of Szombathely
Saint Anthony Junior Caritas Group, Magyarlak – 12 members (since 2025)

Archdiocesan Caritas of Veszprém
- Saint Benedict Caritas Junior Group, Pápa – 16 members (since 2023)
- Saint John of Nepomuk Junior Group, Várpalota – 7 members (since 2023)

New development in 2025

Caritas Junior inauguration in Magyarlak
We are proud that the **Saint Anthony Junior Caritas Group** of Magyarlak was founded with 12 members and the involvement of 5 helpers. Its members made their solemn pledge on 24 November 2025.

Caritas Junior inauguration in Magyaralmás
In the spring of 2024, the **Jézus Szíve Caritas Junior group** got started. The youth picked the name themselves, and on 19 November 2025, around the feast of Saint Elizabeth, seven of them made their commitment during a festive Mass, taking on the service of Caritas.



photo: dr. Hortenzia Sinkovicsné Máté

Our Main Events

Diaper donation event – thanks to drugstore chain dm (13 February)



photo: Zita Merényi

Hungarian Heritage Award Ceremony (29 March)



photo: Vermes Tibor

Farewell to Bishop Antal Spányi (7 April)



Music for the future of children in need (28 April)



fotó: Vermes Tibor

Charity Concert (18 September)



fotó: Barcsik Géza

Caritas Hungarica Award Ceremony (3 October)



fotó: Vermes Tibor

Pilgrimage to Sárospatak (15 November)



„Light Fleet" public transport event in Budapest (28 November)



Christmas Charity Concert (17 December)



„Christmas for Everyone” Joint Celebration (22 December)



Financial Summary

Cost Structure 2025



5,9%

Cross-border humanitarian and development projects



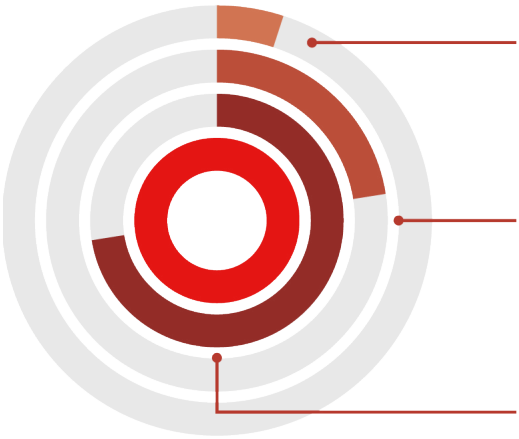
86,1%

Social projects and activities in Hungary

8%

Operating costs

Revenue Structure 2025



5%

Other sources

22,5%

Fundraising and donor projects

72,5%

Grant and budgetary support

Corporate Partnerships

60 companies – HUF 200 million

In 2025, through contributions worth nearly HUF 200 million from around 60 companies, we were able to help those living in the most vulnerable situations.

At Caritas Hungary, help is not a one-time donation but sustainable change: safety instead of crisis, opportunity instead of disadvantage.

Conscious support

Tax benefits and social value

With your contributions, you not only save lives, but can also reduce your company's tax base.

Adopt a program

By becoming a committed supporter of a key initiative, such as child nutrition or catching-up settlements, lasting change can be achieved.

Material donations

What is surplus for a company may be the foundation of everyday life for a family in need.

The power of community

Employee giving

The smaller donations of employees, matched by company contributions, can achieve multiplied impact.

Volunteer team building

Renovation work, assembling aid packages or community actions: working together both helps others and builds community.

The message of help

By involving corporate communication platforms, a good cause can reach even more people.

Knowledge and resources

Professional support

The IT, legal, communication or construction expertise available within your company can significantly strengthen the work of Caritas.

Logistical support

Through free warehouse capacity or transport options, you can help our donations reach even the most remote corners of the country.

Creating collection points

Collection points established in office buildings and shops can become local centres of assistance.

Good deeds, good reputation

Cause Related Marketing

By linking a donation to the sale of a product or service, your customers can also help through their purchases.

Long-term partnership

Through cooperation built along CSR and ESG goals, company support can be used where the company's values and the mission of Caritas meet most closely.

Place for the Logos of Main Supporters























Acknowledgements

With grateful hearts, we thank all our corporate and individual supporters and cooperation partners who, through their trust and assistance, supported our service over the past year. Thanks to their help, support was able to reach many people and families in need throughout the year.

We deeply appreciate the commitment and openness with which our partners stand beside this shared good cause. We trust that in the future we may continue to work together in supporting those in need, whether in the implementation of new joint programs or initiatives launched by corporate social responsibility.

We are also grateful to the hundreds of small and medium-sized enterprises whose contributions and commitment make them part of this shared service.

Thank you for being part of this common solidarity with others through your presence and generosity.

Support Our Work and Donate!

Bank: CIB Bank
Bank account number:
10701094-76228861-51100005
IBAN HU87 **107 010 947622 8861 51100005**
SWIFT: **CIBHHUHB**

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