



Hotel Stefanie Schick-Hotels Betriebs GmbH  
Taborstraße 12  
1020 Wien  
Austria

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## **Your sponsorship for SOS Children's Village Bucharest**

Dear Team Hotel Stefanie,

I've really been looking forward to writing to you! I hope you had a great summer and enjoyed my last letter.

Here everyone is getting excited because holidays are on their way. We have lots of fun activities planned, and the children can't wait!

In this letter, I'll tell you all about the fun things we've been doing and what we're planning for the winter holiday.

Thank you so much for being our friend. On behalf of all the children and families, we wish you a happy and sparkly season.

All names have been changed due to data privacy.

### **— From Bean to Cup: A Rainy Day Filled with Aroma and Smiles**

Recently, the children took part in a wonderful and educational workshop all about coffee! During the session, they discovered the long and fascinating journey of coffee, from the small green beans that grow on faraway trees to the delicious drink that fills a cup with warmth and energy.

The trainers explained how coffee beans are picked, roasted, and ground before they become the drink. The teens watched closely as they were shown how to prepare different types of coffee, use the espresso machine, and even create beautiful decorations on top of a cappuccino. It was a hands-on experience where everyone had the chance to try and have fun while learning new skills.

'I didn't know that coffee had such a long history and that there is so much to it.'

Even though it was a gloomy Friday morning with rain, the atmosphere was full of laughter. The teens were truly enthusiastic, taking turns using the coffee tools. Some of them even said they could imagine working in a cozy cafe one day.



The youngsters explored the office and then proceeded to make coffee

## Discovering the Art and Joy of Coffee Making

'We learned about the different types of coffee!' shares Ana with excitement.

'I think it's an interesting job to work as a barista, I'd like to try it,' smiles Bianca.

The most enjoyable moment came when everyone got to decorate their own coffee, using milk foam and chocolate powder to make creative patterns.

By the end of the workshop, the teens left not only with new knowledge but also with a sense of accomplishment and curiosity. Maybe one day, one of them will become a great barista!

## — Crossroads and Connections

Summer was almost over and the teens couldn't wait to pack their bags and head off to the much-loved YouthCan! Camp, a place where learning is fun and every day brings a new adventure.

This year's theme was 'Making Decisions' and it inspired everyone to ask themselves many questions, think about what really matters, and find the confidence to dream big.

Each day was packed with energy, creativity, and connection.

Between discussions, the teens joined trust-building exercises, energizers, and team games. There was never a dull moment, mornings started with cheerful music and gymnastics, afternoons brought teamwork challenges, and evenings ended with movies watched together or games that brought them together.

For five days, the teens explored workshops that helped them better understand their feelings, discover their strengths, and think about the choices they make. They talked about what it means to get to know yourself and how to choose what's right for you.

'It's such a great opportunity to be there, you can always learn something and create beautiful memories.' smiles Alexandra

'And you get to make new friends!' chimes in Andrei.

## Five Days, Lasting Change

But there was more to the adventure! One of the most exciting parts of the week was a treasure hunt in the city, where the participants worked in teams to solve clues and complete missions. Later, at the adventure park, they climbed, jumped, ran and cheered each other on.



The teens learned how to work together and collaborate

'It was great to see them get along so well and have so much fun.' shares Marc, one of the pedagogues.

'It was my favorite part of the camp! I was so tired after climbing and jumping so much,' smiles loan

When the final day came, it was hard to say goodbye.

Everyone left with new friends, new lessons, and new

things learned about themselves.

The YouthCan! Camp 2025 wasn't just about making decisions—it was about learning about emotions, creating friendships and building trust.

## — Learning, talking and growing together

In the village, a special workshop was held for the mothers and teenagers from the Family Strengthening Program. It was a day filled with learning, sharing, and open conversations about health, relationships, and the taboos that sometimes it's hard to talk about. Everyone came together: parents, children, and specialists, creating a safe and supportive space where every voice mattered.

The workshop wasn't just about information, it was about connection. The mothers discussed how to talk to their children about important health topics, and they shared their own experiences, fears, and hopes. Guided by the specialists, they learned practical ways to communicate openly and build stronger bonds with their kids.

'The mothers were very open to learn more and ask questions.' said one of the specialists.

'It's so important to stay informed and to be able to talk with the children about health. I felt so safe being surrounded by other mothers and the specialists, it was wonderful,' shared one of the mothers, smiling.

While the parents had their discussions, the teenagers joined their own workshop. It was one full of thoughtful activities and creative exercises that helped them explore selfcare and emotional health. They asked questions, laughed, and reflected together, realising that learning about health isn't just knowledge, but also caring for themselves and others.

It was a full day of teamwork and trust. It was a true example of how much the community in the village works together to grow stronger and more connected every day.

I will be glad to write to you more in the next letter.

Thank you for all your support. I wish you wonderful holidays and a happy new year.

Warm regards from Romania,



Teodora Dragoi

**National Sponsorship Co-ordinator**