

4 juillet 2017

This year's special project is drawing to a close. A great deal has been successfully achieved. First of all, the "work space" has seen a sharp increase in attendance and, given the opportunity to increase our support with an additional trainee who is doing a "year of social volunteering" through the diocesan Caritas organisation, we have been able to respond fully to the young people's needs. The working environment that was created has been very stimulating and has allowed us to alternate study time with time for reflection and discussion of topics of interest to the young people.

We have succeeded in building up our resources with textbooks and a laptop computer that has enabled the youngsters to carry out research and meet school requirements.

The client group of this service is around 30 young people attending various secondary schools in the city, from vocational schools to sixth forms.

In some cases, the project also allowed a link to be made with the Youth Centre, as many of the youngsters became curious about what else was on offer at the centre and started to come along to the activities and informal spaces.

The reception desk was always busy. There have been over 100 individual interventions this year, involving guidance, counselling, support and advice. There are more than 20 users involved and, thanks to the informality and nature of the proposal, we have managed to approach very delicate cases.

Twice we persuaded clients to seek help from social services or to have multidisciplinary support to better monitor their situations.

The workshop on short film making was extremely interesting: we chose to work with a small group so as to be more effective and efficient. The first steps were demanding, especially because writing a script and choosing the camera angles is very theoretical work and requires commitment. It was decided to use actors from outside the work group, so the young people also had the experience of casting and directing the chosen actors. The practical phase was exciting. The film is now finished and will be screened at a film festival that will also be presented to the town in the Brescia municipal cinema, which is near our centre.

In fact, the film festival is currently being planned, and is being organised by a young man from our centre. Films have been selected and, in collaboration with a local cinema, the screenings of the films have been scheduled. The goal is to encourage people living in the neighbourhood to come to the cinema. The screenings will be free and films of Asian and African origin have been selected in order to appeal to non-Italian people who are often not interested in this kind of proposal.

The photography workshop focused on self-portraits. After a first phase of study from the technical point of view, subjects and focus, a room and professional equipment were provided for the youngsters (about ten were involved in the project) with the task of presenting themselves. The results are printed and a photographic exhibition is planned in various locations in the town.

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