

**SECTION:  
SOCIAL PROJECTS**



**“FAMILIES IN DIFFICULTY” PROJECT**

Fondazione Cantonuovo is also involved in the social field and provides assistance and support to families in need or in state of extreme poverty. Last year two families with disabled children, one in Italy and one in Slovakia, received financial help for a total amount of € 1.850.

**“DETENTION CENTER” PROJECT**

This project is targeting those people who, for various reasons, have been deprived of the freedom and the rights to which every human being is entitled. Fondazione Cantonuovo wants to help inmates understand the true meaning of life and get free from emptiness and frustration to find peace and happiness in expressing the better part of themselves. In other words, the project aims at:

- leading the inmate to rediscover man's inner sense of justice by respecting the law, the social rules and the principles that regulate life; to find his own identity and regain freedom of choice, self-esteem and hope in the future in order to give a better chance to his own family too;
- leading the inmate to regain his dignity through his self-consciousness and helping him to live a meaningful life. In order to provide the best cares each individual must be considered in all the aspects of his personality ( psychological, moral, ethic, and spiritual) so that he can give a meaning to his life.

“Taking care” means to stop the past from interfering with our present. Therefore, Cantonuovo's goal is to help the inmate discover his own potential by preparing him to re-enter into society and improve it with his rediscovered value. This project is carried out by a team of volunteers from Fondazione Cantonuovo with different roles and tasks to satisfy the inmates' various needs.



## ACTIVITIES

Up to now these are the activities carried out at the detention center in Siena:

- group meetings to encourage dialogues and reduce conflicts by promoting friendship among the inmates;
- private interviews focusing on the inmate's personal story in order to provide the correct moral, psychological, ethical and spiritual support;
- escorting the inmate with exit permit to facilitate family encounters outside the detention center;
- escorting the inmate from the detention center to the community for drug addicts;
- helping the inmates' families living far away from the detention center and with no economic means to visit the prisoners;
- music composition to learn the criteria of composition of songs and texts;
- concerts of high quality contemporary music composed by Fabrizio Tiezzi and inspired by Christian principles, to offer the inmates entertainment while encouraging their active participation to reduce the tension of daily life in jail;
- courses of guitar to learn basic melodies;
- singing as a way to express themselves in songs to improve musical knowledge;
- Christmas party for children to give the

children and grandchildren of the inmates the chance to celebrate Christmas with their loved ones in a peaceful and free atmosphere;

- Christmas presents the detainees can give to their children to show their care and affection for them;
- outfit to encourage personal hygiene and to enhance the sense of dignity of the inmates;
- assisting the inmates with administrative procedures outside the prison to guarantee their benefits and rights;
- helping the inmates learn the school curriculum with textbooks and handouts for their graduation;
- “Discover your purpose”, a training based on group discussions to lead the inmates to discover their goals in life and to teach them how to overcome the difficulties after their release from prison.

