



PAIDEIA
FONDAZIONE

Paideia was founded in 1993 by a group of families in Turin wanting to help disadvantaged children by promoting new initiatives and giving concrete support to those who are involved in this very difficult work on a daily basis.

In 1998, Paideia received recognition as a Non Lucrative Organization of Social Benefit (o.n.l.u.s.) and today, not only is it of huge importance to many other organizations, it is also a reference point for many within the region of Piedmont.

Being able to draw from our long experience in helping others and our philosophy of listening carefully to the needs of those who turn to us for help, we pride ourselves in being able to give tangible support to both public and private establishments, families and individuals.

We are active in five main areas; hospitals, social services, support groups, recreational activities and research.

**ORGANIZZAZIONE NON LUCRATIVA
DI UTILITÀ SOCIALE**

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HOSPITALS ACTIVITIES

A large part of our financial resources are used to help mothers and children, with programs aimed directly at children in hospitals or at providing material aid through the health service.

Our Foundation played a crucial role in bringing about the opening of a number of pediatric units in Turin which have gained national recognition both for their ability to respond to people's needs and for their innovative use of technology.

Specialist equipment has been provided for pediatric departments; new premises have been set up or built from scratch; help has been given in terms of finance and organizational skills to associations operating within hospitals.

Because these associations act independently, they are often able to respond spontaneously and swiftly to individuals and their families, bringing them a service which often proves to be indispensable and irreplaceable.



CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Paideia has always sought to support those services whose aim is to help make sure no child remains socially excluded.

Careful attention and financial support is given for projects from associations, social cooperatives, day care centers, residential learning associations and for therapy, emergency or domestic self help groups. These structures not only provide material support, they also help those in need to overcome more difficult situations. To be able to provide such assistance, the presence of suitably qualified staff able to build interpersonal relationships and help social development is of prime importance. Such relationships often lead to the individual becoming more autonomous and socially confident. Working directly with the individual brings us into contact with areas that are less well understood and protected and which would otherwise go unnoticed not for lack of interest but simply due to a shortage of funds.

Paideia's financial commitment in this area has been rising at a rate of 20% of the Foundation's funds.



FAMILY SUPPORT

This area deals with direct support – material or psychological – aimed at families in difficulty. Aid is provided with the collaboration of professionals qualified in the field of social services.

We are usually approached for such help by government bodies and hospitals or by social services with the request to intervene in exceptional cases where a family may be facing social exclusion due to a grave illness, the birth of a child in complicated circumstances or difficulty in finding funds to pay for expensive care or assistance that is generally not provided by the state. Over 70% of financial and material aid given goes towards children or parents with an illness or disability.

The aim of the intervention is to try and restore some sort of balance to the family or the children which is indispensable for them during their period of growth, by intervening in “exceptional” cases following an emergency, and helping them to regain their autonomy and self confidence.

Because there is an increasing number of such complex situations, Paideia works hand in hand with government bodies, so as to be able to pool all available resources and to offer a more coordinated response. In particular, the Foundation is trying to create “bridging projects” together with these bodies so that they can provide assistance directly to the family, following the guidelines laid down by the government bodies themselves.

Intervention is carried out by a team of well trained volunteers organized by the Foundation.



RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

The Foundation organizes recreational activities and games of a wide variety for children in care. Long standing experience has proved how important it is to juxtapose moments of social assistance with moments of play between the families and the educators. Indeed, experiments have shown that creating a distinction between the time spent in one's everyday environment, which may often be very difficult, and time spent in a totally different environment leads to a more speedy recovery and fosters self help.

Every year, trips are organized to the seaside and mountain resorts, national parks, farming holidays, museums, the cinema, festivals and shows.

During such trips, the Foundation relies on the contribution from a vast number of volunteers to help families in their everyday activities and in their particular area of need.



RESEARCH

The Foundation invests in research into the study of the causes of children's problems and the resources currently available in the Piedmont region. Conducting research into the realities in the area on a regular basis is driven by the need to have access to effective tools to be able to analyze and interpret the problems, processes, anxieties and the social needs that are pointers to the material and existential conditions of the inhabitants of the region. Indeed, it is because the needs of today are undergoing continuous and rapid change that it is necessary to be able to anticipate these changes and thus face up to the social needs and, where necessary, review the way they are dealt with.

Investing in and improving on research as an instrument of analysis and organization, also provides an up to date overview of the social services offered, which leads to a better understanding of how to intervene, to better allocate resources and to monitor the work that we do.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

CENTRE FOR BONE MARROW TRANSPLANTS

The Foundation contributed to the refurbishment of the Pediatric Centre for Bone Marrow Transplants in the children's Regina Margherita hospital in Turin. This highly qualified health service centre carries out transplants both from donors and auto transplants necessary for the treatment of oncohematological, metabolic and autoimmune diseases. This initiative was carried out in a joint committee with contributions from Compagnia di San Paolo and Fondazione CRT.



INFORMATION ON DIAGNOSES

The aim of this research is to look into the ways parents are informed both before and just after child birth of a child's disability so that doctors and the health service in general can adopt a more appropriate approach. This project, "Nascere bene per crescere meglio" ("Come to life well to grow up better"), is being done in collaboration with CEPIM - the Centre for People with Down syndrome in Turin.

CHE FARE?

Launched in collaboration with Associazione AREA, this project provides free counseling, orientating and accompaniment services to families with disabled children between 0 and 14 years of age, by looking at relationship problems and facilitating access to resources in their area. It also provides a bus service by Pionieri della CRI based in Turin, to services and structures in the area.



LA FATICA DI CRESCERE

Published in 2002, the book is the result of a long study of the problems, both old and new, relating to living and growing up in the area of Turin. It gives an in-depth insight into the world of the child with contributions from several experts from the public and private sectors with direct experience in the field.

FAMILY PROTECTION

This project is aimed at families with parents suffering from oncological diseases. Paideia provides both financial and social help in collaboration with Fondazione FARO.



A DOG AS A FRIEND

This is a project aimed at inmates at the prison for young offenders, Ferrante Aporti, and gives them the opportunity to learn how to train dogs for social purposes. This helps participants of the project to improve their communicative and relationship skills. The project is organized in collaboration with Forcoop Agenzia Formativa, and coordinated by the dog trainers of the Associazione Arcadia.



LACTARIUM

This "milk bank" was created at the Sant'Anna hospital of Turin to collect, classify, treat, store and distribute maternal milk to help save premature babies. The unit is within the Neonatal Intensive Therapy Department inaugurated in 2000 and was made possible by funds given by the Foundation.

NEONATAL INTENSIVE CARE

Paideia contributed to the completion of the new neonatal intensive care centre linked to the Neonatological department of the University Teaching Hospital Sant'Anna in Turin. The department deals with problems relating to high risk premature babies with congenital malformation syndrome.

POINTS COEUR

The international association, Points Coeur, founded by father Thierry de Roucy, operates in communities in the poorest urban areas worldwide. A Points Coeur is an ordinary house in impoverished areas where volunteers welcome disadvantaged children and families, providing them with help and comfort directly on their doorstep. In 1998, the Foundation helped launch Punto Cuore, an Italian branch of the association, in Afragola, on the periphery of Naples.



CENTRE FOR RARE DISEASES

This centre serves several purposes: it provides fact sheets on several rare diseases and helps orientate people in the right direction within the hospital structure. It has developed software that gives information on the various steps of a treatment, the therapies available and their relative costs. It also serves as a meeting point for patients and their families to access information and support. It has created a website that gives online information and advice on health issues, social services and legal aspects of less known illnesses. The project is organized by the Federation for Rare Diseases for Children (FMRI) in collaboration with the Organization for the Study of Rare Diseases, both based in Italy.



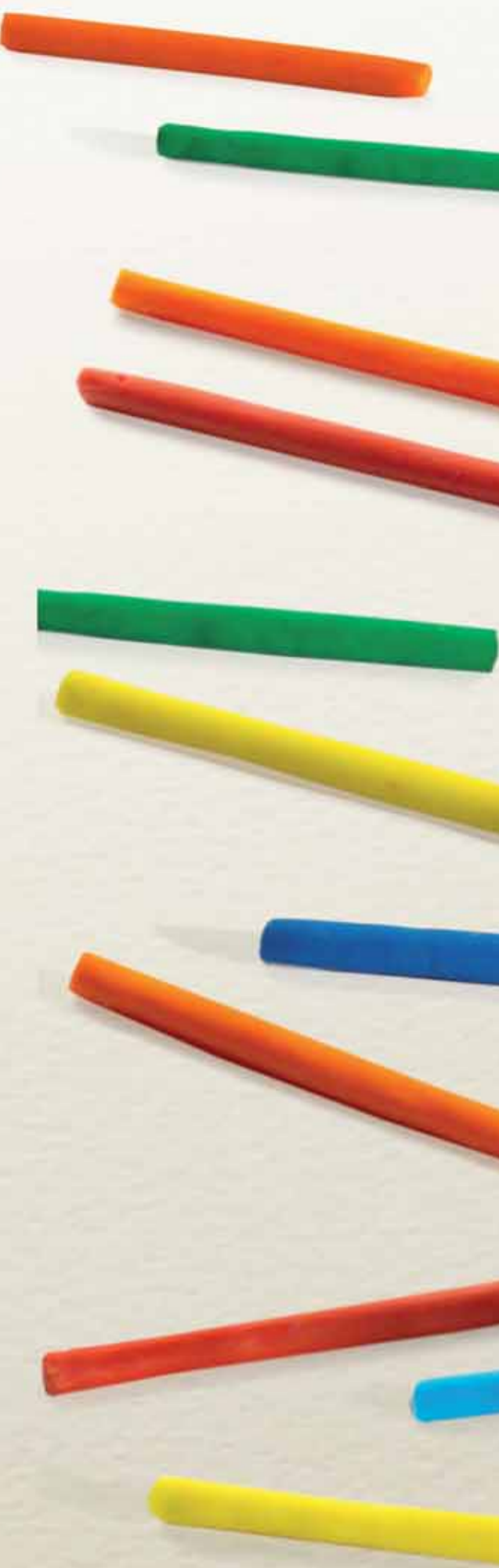
L'ESTATE DI MARTINA

During the summer months, the Foundation organizes trips to the seaside and holiday camps for families with disabled children. The project is carried out with a group of volunteers with special training in relationship skills to help participants socialize with other individuals, which often leads to the creation of long standing help networks.



STAZIONE REGINA

Stazione Regina has been born from the restoration of the disused northern station of the monorail in Turin so as to provide a semi-residential reception centre for children from the pediatric oncology centre of the children's Regina Margherita hospital in Turin. 22 small homes and several common areas have been created for families, with the contribution of Compagnia di San Paolo, managed by the Association U.G.I., Unione Genitori Italiani contro il tumore dei bambini.



MEMBERS

President:	Renzo Giubergia
Vice President:	Giuliana Giubergia
Counselors:	Bruno Argentero Daniela Argentero Guido Giubergia Paola Giubergia Paola Marpillero Maria Giovanna Rocca
Auditor:	Roberto Stefano Moro
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PROJECTS

Paideia's aim is to consolidate and extend the support it provides and to welcome new initiatives together with financial and operational co-operation. The publication of the report on disadvantaged children in Turin has opened up a debate that the Foundation intends to follow through, by fine-tuning its method for selecting new initiatives and intervening more effectively where help is most needed. The method will be carefully and rigorously thought out so that, with the contribution from others, it can strengthen its ability to create alliances and to continue to support the most deserving projects.



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