



giving

back to the
community



Impact on
Communities
for a Better
Tomorrow



RHODOPE CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

3 Vystanicheska Str.
4701 Smolian, Bulgaria
Email: rccd_smolian@abv.bg
Web: www.rccd-bg.org



making a difference
for the
youth in the Rhodopes



RHODOPE CENTER FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Our mission, vision and values

The Rhodopes Center for Community Development is guided by a Mission Statement, Vision, and Values, as well as by our Diversity and Inclusion Statement, which together reflect what we believe.

MISSION
Promoting and building a culture of human rights; working for the support of youth leadership; multiculturalism and toleration in the communities in Bulgaria.

Promoting inclusion of people with disabilities, focusing on youth and women and seeking to prevent multiple discrimination and human right abuses.

Promoting an asset-based youth-lead community development, that avoids paternalism and dependence by stimulating the discovering, mapping and mobilizing of all local community assets and this way helping the Bulgarian communities become stronger and more self-reliant.

VISION
We envision building sustainable community resources, leadership and partnerships to serve the needs of all people, with specific focus on youth; as well as increasing social justice, individual well-being and reducing negative impacts of intolerance and segregation in Bulgarian society.



There is no community without UNITY



Rhodopes Center for Community Development is a local non-governmental youth-led organization, which is independent, non-partisan, and non-commercial in nature.

We care to make a difference for the community, working locally, nationally and involving international partnerships.

VALUES

Our Community Development Values

Problem focused learning

We believe that communities are healthy and vital when: They have the capacity to succeed. They are welcoming to all and community members support and care for one another. They are sustainable.

Active citizenship

Developing active citizenship skills and motivated and empowering young people in participating for meeting their needs. We promote the expression of shared responsibility evidenced in practical action in all dimensions of community life - politics, sport and recreation, care, art and culture, religion, the environment, health, economic development - and, at its best, involves participation across boundaries of race, age, gender and disability.

We seek to encourage people to think about the causes of problems, act on those causes, and learn from the outcome. This is the core approach taken to empowerment. Community development is based on the idea that people learn from the experience of tackling their own problems. It seeks to encourage people to think about the causes of problems, act on those causes, and learn from the outcome. Lifelong learning is a source of personal fulfilment, achievement and self-realisation, and as such, a basis for building strong communities.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Sensitive and open to differences, the Rhodopes Center for Community Development offers a safe environment that values diversity and fosters inclusion for all community members.

Community led collective action:

We work on community development aiming at building solidarity and support through emphasising the common aspects of individual problems, and the capacity of people to work together in their common interest.

Preventative action

We strive to build strong communities who will have the capacity to identify potential problems and take preventative action. This is the core approach taken to empowerment. It seeks to encourage people to think about the causes of problems, act on those causes, and learn from the outcome, reflecting the value of continuous individual and community self-development and improvement.

ACTIVITIES

In the RCCD we mobilize resources for a good community development that helps people to recognize and develop their ability and potential and actively respond to the problems they face.

Empowerment

Most forms of exclusion are based on lack of power and influence, and imposed solutions are at best paternalistic and at worst oppressive. We strive for community development has at its heart a commitment to empowerment: encouraging communities and groups to learn how power relationships operate, and to develop their ability to deal with the problems.

We work to support the establishment of strong communities that control and use their own assets to promote social justice and help improve the quality of community life. We strive to enable community and public agencies to work together to improve the quality of government.

Collaboration

We promote and facilitate collaboration between interest groups, government and citizens.