

“ The will of one man,
the future of many ”



Fondazione
ValterBaldaccini

FROM THE ROOTS 13

SEMIANNUAL · JULY 2024

VALTER BALDACCINI FOUNDATION MAGAZINE

TEN YEARS



>> VOLUNTEERS AT LESKOC HOUSE



Dear Friends,

May 4, 2024 was the tenth anniversary of my father Valter's passing to eternal life.

We decided to celebrate this moment with a series of events organized by both the Foundation and UMBRA-GROUP, which will continue until next year, when the Foundation turns ten years old.

One of our main goals is to keep my father's life testimony alive and to make his example known to as many people as possible; therefore, we have published "Valter dei desideri", an illustrated fairy tale that mixes fact and fantasy, telling how fundamental desire affects all our lives, both young and old.

I was extremely happy that the Cannara Municipal Stadium was dedicated to my father, an important sign the municipal administration embraced to underline his bond with his hometown and his great passion for the game of football.

I am also happy to have returned to Kosovo with a group of volunteers, exactly ten years after the inauguration of its new headquarters. It is precisely this experience and the project that we are carrying out with the Leskoc House that we dedicate this issue of "Dalle radici"; I would like the trip to Kosovo to become an annual event, so that more and more people have the opportunity to get to know this splendid project and see, in a concrete way, our commitment to provide a chance of redemption to those who need help the most.

*Beatrice Baldaccini
President of the Valter Baldaccini Foundation*

RETURN TO LESKOC

We arrive in Leskoc in the late afternoon. It is hot and children and young people welcome us as if they have known us forever. For most of the Italian volunteers it is their first time in Kosovo and that snack of watermelon and ice cream, shared immediately with smiles and games, quickly melts away their initial shyness. **The Leskoc House is like this: lively and friendly, it makes you feel welcomed right away.** We visit the various spaces of the structure and the cooperative with Rinaldo, who with his wife Francesca manages the House and its many activities on behalf of Caritas Umbria, The Caritas mission in Kosovo began in June 1999, a few days before the end of the war for independence.

When they arrived, the population was exhausted, and the territory completely destroyed. There were so many refugees and there was a great need for help, to rebuild and be close to the people. The first volunteers of the mission found an abandoned child who lived with his dog in a kennel and from that meeting the project of welcoming orphaned boys and girls and families in extreme difficulty was born. The welcoming began in a house in the village of Klina, but soon the space became tight and the construction of the Leskoc House began, to which Valter Baldaccini and UMBRAGROUP also contributed, a beautiful house that was inaugurated ten years ago, in October 2014.



>> VISITING FAMILIES

Today ten boys and girls live permanently in Leskoc and as many attend the house during the day.

The first ones welcomed have now become young women and men who still gravitate around the House, which for each of them is synonymous with family.

The cooperative born alongside the House is responsible for **creating jobs for the young men and women who grew up there and for those in the community**

who find themselves in greater difficulty.

2021, with the Foundation we have focused precisely on this need, creating projects dedicated to job placement and Rinaldo accompanied us to see up close **the dairy, the bakery and the**



>> PREPARING FOOD PARCELS

stable, where some of the boys and girls supported by the Foundation now work permanently.



A few hours after our arrival, each of us starts to lend a hand in various activities: playing with the little ones, setting the table, clearing the table, washing the dishes, cutting vegetables, preparing snacks, running small errands, sorting the goods in the warehouse and preparing food parcels for the most fragile families who live nearby. Yes, because **the House is not only the one made of solid walls, but also the one that reaches out to the many families in difficulty who live in Kosovo.**

During our stay we brought food and clothes to some of these families, we met boys and girls who live in situations of extreme poverty, men who suffer from mental distress, women who are victims of abuse and violence whom the House stands by, lending a hand and without the pretense of solving all the serious problems that afflict this community. Even on our first trip to Kosovo with some volunteers, in 2019, we went to visit some families and in one we met Samira. She was two years old and

together with her grandfather, her brother, and her father with mental health problems she lived in conditions that touched us deeply. After five years, we met Samira again at the Leskoc House and we found a seven-year-old girl, intelligent and smart, who goes to school and who in a short time has learned to speak Italian so she can be with her peers, to play carefree.



Seeing Samira and so many boys and girls of that time who, like her, are now grown up and busy building their own path, filled our hearts with hope and strengthened our desire to stay closer to the Leskoc House, to Francesca and Rinaldo and all the special people who live there. See you soon Leskoc!

SINCE 2014, NEXT TO THE LESKOC HOUSE

2014

Valter Baldaccini and UMBRAGROUP support the construction of a wing of the House.

2016

The collaboration with the Foundation begins through the supply of ten dairy cows, a milking machine, and a pasteurizer, essential for the start of the cooperative's milk production and sales activities.

2019

Together with the cooperative, we build a new stable and go on a visit together with a group of volunteers.

2020

With the pandemic, the House suffers and needs sustenance: we buy twenty new calves.

2021

A series of projects dedicated to education and job placement began in 2021. The first is dedicated to a group of women who receive training to work in the bakery, pastry shop and dairy.

2022

Access to university through two scholarships for Dardana and Ariana. Dardana decides to change majors and Ariana goes to work.

2023

Dardana's scholarship continues at the new university and internships and job placements begin for Dorentina in the dairy, Hasimet in the bakery and Valentina in caring for the minors at the House.

2024

Second year at the new faculty for Dardana, job placements continue for Hasimet and Valentina and that of Laura also begins, who helps with the various jobs needed to manage the House [cleaning, laundry, ironing].





Fondazione
ValterBaldaccini



Since 2015, the Valter Baldaccini Foundation has been committed to preserving the life testimony, values and actions of Valter Baldaccini, a Christian man and enlightened entrepreneur. Every day it supports those who are most in difficulty by carrying out projects in three areas: family, education and work, in the area and around the world.

DONATE NOW

- Online: fondazionevb.org/en

- with a bank transfer:

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FROM THE ROOTS (DALLE RADICI)

The Valter Baldaccini Foundation's semiannual magazine

Registration Court of Perugia
n.1166 / 2022 of 02.23.2022

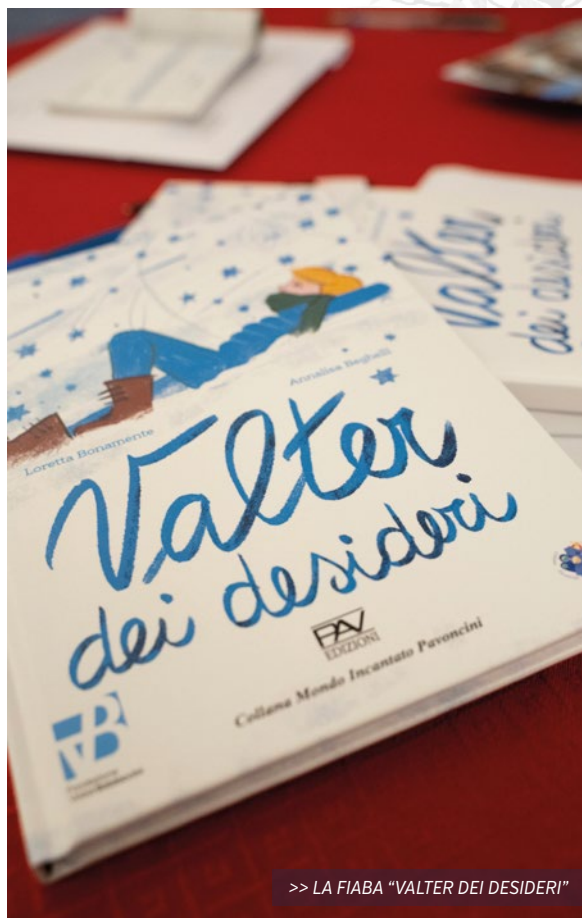
Publisher: Valter Baldaccini Foundation
Responsible Director: Fabio Luccioli
Editing: Paola Taglietti
Layout: Valentina Stocchi
Printing: Unione Tipografica Folignate

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THE FAIRY TALE “VALTER DEI DESIDERI”

“Valter was just a child when he began his race towards the great beech tree on the hill. That place and that tree hid a secret that would accompany him throughout his life. Like his wishes - sometimes curious, sometimes generous, sometimes adventurous, sometimes incredible - which immediately revealed gift, courage, and possibility”.

“**Valter dei desideri**” is the fairy tale written by Loretta Bonamente, illustrated by Annalisa Beghelli, published by PAV editions, which tells the life of Valter Baldaccini, mixing real events and fantasy.



>> LA FIABA “VALTER DEI DESIDERI”

Its goal is to encourage adults who read it to reflect and to make boys and girls aware of the importance of wishes.

It is a fairy tale born by chance, during a walk on Mount Subasio, organized in May 2023, for the eighth anniversary of the Foundation. For the occasion, the walker-actress Loretta Bonamente, taking inspiration from the publications that told Valter's story, imagined Valter as a child and told his story to a group of

boys and girls.

From there, the idea of writing a fairy tale was born and it involved Annalisa Beghelli in the project, an illustrator who met Valter when she was a child, while playing with Valter's children.

The fairy tale is available in paperback and ebook format and can be purchased in all bookstores, on main online sales platforms and on the publisher's website (www.pavedizioni.it). “**Valter dei desideri**” was presented for the first time at the Teatro San Carlo in Foligno on May 25, 2024, on the ninth anniversary of the Foundation, with a theatrical adaptation by and with Loretta Bonamente, directed by Giacomo Nappini Casuzzi and the boys and girls of Protemus. Stay updated on the Foundation's website to discover the next presentations!