



HIV MEDICATION EXCHANGE

Focus area: Healthy living

THE CHALLENGE

In Romania the health system is still broken for people living with HIV (PLWHIV). Many PLWHIV are currently not able to access life-saving HIV medication. Ironically, in many other countries such as the Netherlands, we destroy good, unused medication that is not yet expired. For example, this happens when we need to switch to another pill. How can we help PLWHIV in Romania with this unused life-saving medication?

OUR SOLUTION

Through our social network we mobilise PLWHIV to send us unused medication that is not yet expired. We then prepare and send it through a network of truck drivers to our partner Sens Positiv who distribute the HIV medication amongst PLWHIV in Romania. We also urge pharmacies and policy-makers to address the issue of wasting life-saving HIV medication.

Our advantage

- ❑ We are able to develop and maintain a very lively network of PLWHIV in countries where, by law, life-saving good medication must be destroyed
- ❑ Commitment to save as much as possible HIV medication from destruction
- ❑ We ensure that the medication gets to people whose lives depend on taking HIV medication

Benefits of the solution

- ❑ To help PLWHIV in Romania survive while they wait for their health system to improve
- ❑ Divert life-saving HIV medication to people in need
- ❑ Save money by keeping good HIV medication out of the medical waste stream

THE DIFFERENCE WE MAKE

Impact

- ❑ We help to improve the lives of many people living in Romania that are desperately in need of HIV medication currently not provided by their health services
- ❑ We avoid the wasting of thousands of euros of perfectly good medication by the health system every year
- ❑ We put the issue of re-purposing life-saving (HIV) medication on the policy-makers' agenda

Achievements

- ❑ Over 10 shipments of medication supplied to Romania since 2018
- ❑ At least 20 PLWHIV have benefitted from the medication
- ❑ >48,000 euros worth of medication saved from destruction