



Prepared for potential partners by Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas

About Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas

[Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas](#) is part of a global Caritas network that spans over 200 countries and territories. Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas is a non-governmental organization of the Roman Catholic Church, which engages and unites communities and people of goodwill for social service and social justice in the territory of Vilnius Archdiocese ([the Eastern part of Lithuania](#)).

Goals of Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas:

1. To provide purposeful, high-quality, community-based charity for the people in need in the territory of Vilnius Archdiocese;
2. To be the voice of the weak and no-rights members of society: to testify to their marginalization and injustice and to represent them in order to eliminate the causes of their exclusion and enable them to live independently;
3. To cooperate with pastoral associates of Vilnius Archdiocese;
4. To cooperate with other Caritas structures in a subsidiary and solidarity manner.

The essence of the Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas as the organization is the free will of people to commit to justice and assistance to others, especially the most vulnerable members of the community. Volunteering in such commitment is a favourable form allowing the personal choice to contribute to the most concerned societal issues.

Caritas in Lithuania has renewed its activity in 1989 as women's educative, civil and Catholic movement. In 1996 it has been reorganized and integrated into the ecclesial structure. Since 1989 Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas has developed a regional network of various charitable activities. Today the organization maintains the biggest social service network among Lithuania's NGOs. Caritas team in Vilnius Archdiocese consists of more 95 professionals and 450 volunteers who work on helping in many ways with 15 different target groups in need.

Main Activities of Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas include organisation of volunteers and formation of local community. It is a founder of 3 other institutions: 1 foundation Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas Social Projects, 2 public institutions - [Vilnius All Saints Parish Temporary Care Home for Children](#), [All Saints Family Support Centre](#). The first was founded to develop Caritas social business initiatives: [community cafe](#), [candle factory](#), etc. The two public institutions have been started to help the parish to develop social services. Organization has 10 branches which work in different socially sensitive areas: [Children's and Teenagers' Day Centre "Angel of Hope"](#); [Foreigners' Integration Program](#); [Social Assistance and Integration Centre "Betanija"](#) (charity canteen); [Alternative Training Centre for Youth](#); [Temporary House](#) (for homeless people); [Care Home for Single Mothers and Children](#); [Consulting Centre for Convicted People](#); [Community for Addicted People "I Am"](#); [Program of Assistance for Victims of Violence](#) and [Social Service](#) (help with clothes and things). Also, the organization coordinates 23 Caritas centres in Parishes of Vilnius Archdiocese and organizes other charity activities in the region.

More information about Vilnius Archdiocese Caritas activities can also be found in its [Facebook page](#).