

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



Fondazione  
Valter Baldaccini

# FROM THE ROOTS 05

JULY 2020

VALTER BALDACCINI FOUNDATION MAGAZINE

Close to local  
families



>> THE THANK WE RECEIVED FOR THE DONATIONS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH CARITAS

# EDITORIAL



Dear Friends,  
the last several months have not been simple.

The pandemic that overwhelmed us forced us to rethink everything: our lives, work, ways to be together in the family, among friends, with colleagues.

The same has inevitably happened also in the Foundation. We have not stopped, we immediately adapted our projects with respect to safety and social distancing and where it has not been possible to do so, we have completely rethought them, never forgetting that, for those who are vulnerable and more fragile, it is even more difficult to deal with all this.

Then we listened. We decided not to respond immediately to the health emergency, but we chose to act in support of the consequences of all this: after a few weeks in fact, the social and economic effects of Coronavirus began to make an impact and many families were thrown into difficulties.

Thus was born "Distant but close to families" with the Caritas of Gubbio and the project with the Caritas of Foligno, both with one goal: to give concrete help to the most fragile families in our area. A shared support, because many donors have responded to our appeal and made a gesture of solidarity. And now a new challenge awaits us: education.

The forced closure of schools has heightened inequalities and educational underdevelopment. For this reason, we signed the appeal "S.O.S. Childhood and Adolescence" promoted by the Foligno School and Childhood Group and we are ready with new projects to support the little ones.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our donors, volunteers and all those who support us in various ways. We are moving forward with confidence, because we know we are not alone on this path.

Best wishes,

Beatrice Baldaccini  
President of the Valter Baldaccini Foundation

## DISTANT BUT CLOSE TO FAMILIES

**Restart from the essentials.** This is what we have said many times during these difficult months.

We asked two Caritas in the area, the **Caritas Diocesan of Gubbio**, our partner in Kosovo, and the **Caritas Diocesan of Foligno** which works actively with job placement what changes they have been experiencing and how we could work more closely with them.

Necessities: groceries, diapers, homogenized products, baby products, economic aid for rent, bills, small maintenance jobs such as repairing a boiler or a hydraulic leak.

These are the requests of people who have knocked on their door in recent weeks.

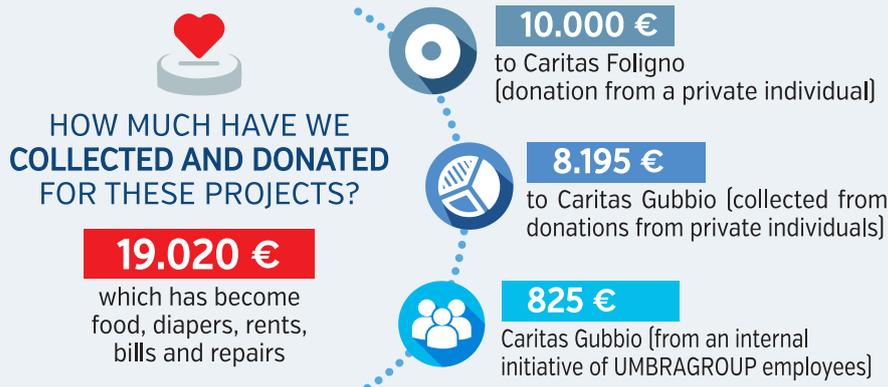
Mauro Masciotti, director of Caritas Foligno and Luca Uccellani, deputy director of Caritas Gubbio, told us of a dramatic increase in poverty, of job uncertainty that is heavier every day, of the dramatic socio-economic consequences that this pandemic is bringing with it.

They told us stories of families who suddenly found themselves without a job, men and women who had important life plans that got completely stuck, mothers who were already in difficulty before the emergency and who were overwhelmed by this situation, people who could no longer pay the rent, bills and who have been without hot water for weeks because they could not repair the boiler.

For this reason, we have suspended the projects we had in mind for 2020 and we have chosen to be "**Distant but close to families**" just as we called this project that started first with Caritas of Gubbio and then extended to Foligno.



>> DELIVERY OF DONATIONS BY CARITAS FOLIGNO VOLUNTEERS



## IN SUPPORT OF EDUCATION

In the past few months, over 9 million girls, boys and adolescents have had to stop school.

"Distance teaching" was activated but not without a few structural, technological and competence difficulties, and often this was entrusted to passionate and responsible teachers.

Not all students, for various reasons, have had access to this new educational method. This has increased inequalities in growth, learning and development opportunities.

Since the establishment of the Foundation, **education** has been one of the main areas of focus with different projects. Examples are the projects in Kenya and Burkina Faso where every year more than 50 children have access to study. Also, there is no shortage of consultations in our territory where with the project "With families" we support newborn babies in their first thousand days, to guarantee everyone the best possible start.



>> PROJECTS CREATED BY "WITH THE FAMILIES" CHILDREN DURING THE LOCKDOWN

At this moment the fight against educational underdevelopment is one of the social emergencies that we have to face, giving concrete answers.

For this reason we have chosen to sign the appeal "S.O.S. Childhood and Adolescence" promoted by the Foligno School and Childhood Group and Social Zone 8. We are available with concrete help for those who are executing proposals and projects



with professionalism and passion. They are trying to fill this educational void and refocus on the needs of children and planning support actions aimed at those with disabilities who have been practically forgotten in recent months.

Alongside us on this journey is our **Scientific Committee**, especially doctors Mariolina Frigeri and Marta Franci. Together we are evaluating how to move in support of our territory. One of the biggest responsibilities that we have as a civil society is the care of the younger generations. We will be happy to tell you about the developments of these new projects in the coming weeks.





Fondazione  
ValterBaldaccini



The Valter Baldaccini Foundation was born in 2015, a year after Valter Baldaccini passed away.

The Foundation was established to preserve his life testimony, his values and his actions as a Christian man and enlightened entrepreneur.

The Foundation supports those who need help most, in our territory and in the world, by creating projects designed for families in difficulty, initiatives that create job opportunities and educational paths that are opportunities for redemption.

To realize that we need your support!  
Please

**DONATE NOW**

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<https://www.fondazionevb.org/en/how-to-donate/donate-online-now>

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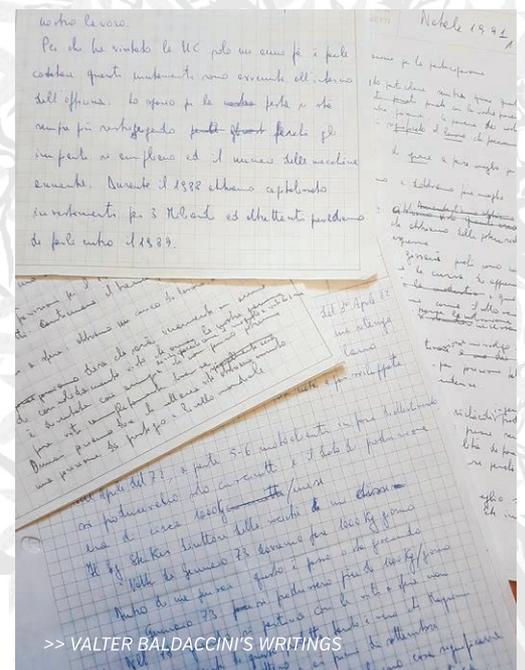
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## AMONG THE THOUGHTS OF VALTER BALDACCINI

There are many writings that Valter Baldaccini has left us. It was his habit to prepare handwritten speeches about what he wanted to communicate. Christmas greetings, thoughts for Easter blessings, notes for meetings with collaborators, letters, pages that make up a precious archive that we keep in the Foundation. Traces that tell of a man who faced difficulties with clarity, courage and faith.

In these months we have taken some time to reread them and we are excited to find his words timely and encouraging; they seem to be speaking to us in this complex time. From the desire to share them with everyone was born the column "Among the thoughts of Valter Baldaccini" to tell what Valter believed, using his own words.

A monthly appointment in which we are committed to transmitting his messages and values.



Our journey began with words of **hope**, the awareness of a difficult present but the certainty of a new day. Seeing opportunities in crises arises from the trust that Valter placed in other people and therefore, another important message is the invitation **to be united**, to be close, building authentic relationships, based on mutual respect.

For Valter, unity is linked to responsibility, since it commits us to take care of each other, especially the more vulnerable neighbor. Brotherhood must be open to the all humanity, to the human family, through concrete actions of **solidarity**, the most important value that defines who we are.

*"The world has become a big village, we cannot think only of ourselves, but we must work so that everyone can live in a dignified way with mutual respect. Nations and people cannot live in isolation."* [Speech for the general meeting of Umbra Cuscinetti on November 19, 2010].

An intense journey through his words that will continue in the coming months.