



Children were victims, youngsters have the need... PAJE is born!

Plataforma PAJE aims to promote empowerment and social inclusion of youngsters who had lived in foster homes during childhood and teenager years. PAJE relies on the support of a multidisciplinary team, made up of volunteers.

Help us to step forward.

The need to create *Plataforma PAJE – Apoio a Jovens (Ex)Acolhidos* arose from the lack of support on the post-hosting period to youngsters who have lived in foster homes. We often meet young people who reveal handicaps, both in their social skills and platforms and in their daily activities. The consequences of these handicaps can become tragic, such as transgressive behaviour, social helplessness and “parasitic” lifestyle. In order to reverse this process, and in an era when values like kindness, comprehension and altruism become scarcer, we aim to raise social awareness on this issue, and also to give those youngsters the skills they lack to build their own life in an autonomous and responsible manner.

In order to achieve these goals, PAJE relies on the support of a multidisciplinary team of volunteers of many fields of work. There are volunteers in the fields of Psychology, Counseling, Social Service, Health, Education, Legal Issues, Accounting, Computing and Information, Arts, etc.

We also intend to intervene at early stages of this process. To achieve this goal, we need to implement classes and training, directly in foster homes, both to the children and teenagers and to their caregivers, in order to improve the autonomy and skills of the former. Interventions at this stage of the process makes it easier to build healthier psychological frameworks, which will be essential during the post-hosting period, a period full of changes and challenges.

Plataforma PAJE is a nonprofit association, which was recently created in order to support youngsters who had lived in foster homes. We intend to encourage and improve their individual competences, favouring their social inclusion through a multidisciplinary support based on their individual needs.



Plataforma PAJE
Apoio a Jovens Ex-acolhidos

This idea appears also as a research project, integrated in Instituto de Psicologia e Desenvolvimento Humano e Social (Unidade de I&D da Universidade de Coimbra – IPCDHS/FCT), and has its basis on the PhD final thesis of its mentor, João Pedro Gaspar, alongside with more than fifteen years of direct relationships with foster home residents and foster homes themselves.

Minimum monthly expenses to ensure the improvement and sustainability of the project:

Physical space (to rent office, electricity, communications ...)	500€	Total	3000€
Human Resources (1 professional + 2 interns)	2000€		
Current expenses (support to needy youngsters)	500€		

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Plataforma PAJE
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