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God's work during the 10 years of Youngstars ministry Radicais in Brazil

Jordelio Souza, President of Radicais in Brazil



Our hearts are overflowing with joy as we witness the beautiful growth of Radicais in Brazil! It is hard to believe we are already approaching the 10th anniversary of this ministry in February 2026. Time has passed quickly and yet the dream that sparked Radicais born together with the church plant of Igreja Batista do Povo in Vila São José continues to flourish. That small beginning has grown into a church of more than 3,000 members, and Radicais has remained faithfully aligned with this missionary heartbeat. In Brazil, every Radicais group is planted through a local church, strengthening our identity as an interdenominational ministry rooted deeply in community and spiritual family.

In these recent years, we have seen a season of healthy, Spirit-led growth. Today, 19 Radicais groups are active

in 7 Brazilian states and many pastors are expressing a desire to begin this work in their own congregations. This expansion is not accidental. It is the result of investing intentionally in leadership development and raising committed leaders. God has blessed us with more than 220 leaders serving across the country! In the year 2025 alone, 6 new groups were launched, 7 training sessions were held and 8 camps brought young people together in powerful moments of transformation, reinforcing the weekly discipleship that takes place in each club.

We have been eyewitnesses to countless stories of changed lives among children and teenagers. Nothing moves us more deeply than seeing them discipled, evangelized, and awakened to leadership that influences the future of our nation. Across all churches involved in Radicais, 89 teenagers were baptized in 2025 alone! This is the true reward of our work seeing young hearts boldly and joyfully declaring their faith in Jesus Christ. God has also raised up people willing to invest in Radicais. Today, we are a recognized Christian non-profit organization in Brazil, especially in the regions where our groups are active. This has opened new doors and strengthened the foundation of our ministry in meaningful ways.

As John Maxwell beautifully reminds us: "When you invest in a child, you're not just changing their present, you are shaping the future of society."

We ask you to keep praying for us. Pray that we may continue growing in a healthy way, reaching even more children across Brazil. Pray that we will continue to present Jesus to them through Radicais vibrantly, creative-

ly and with power. Every club is a mission base. Every child is a precious life. And together we move forward with courage, creativity, and hearts fully aligned with the Lord of the harvest.

A year of growth and new beginnings

Markus Karzelek, National Coordinator Poland

This year, we were grateful for the opportunity to plan and conduct two training courses. Each one a meaningful step forward for our ministry.

Small in Number but Big in Impact

Our Basic Training took place during the summer, and we were thrilled to double the number of participants compared to last year. Admittedly, there were still only seven participants but what mattered most was that three of them came from the new youth group in Skoczów.

Despite the challenging weather (it rained on four out of the six days!), the atmosphere remained positive and the participants stayed engaged and motivated. Their dedication made the week a joy to lead.



A New Format with a Strong Start

Even more exciting was the launch of our Leadership Training, which began in October in Skoczów. Because Poland no longer has short school breaks during the year (except for the two summer months), we adapted our format and divided the training into three weekend sessions. This is the first time we've ever run Leadership Training in this way and it proved to be a great success. Although the weather during the first weekend wasn't ideal, we still managed to spend plenty of time in the forest learning essential skills, including how to build and use rope bridges. The participants all of whom had also attended our Basic Training were eager to learn and excited to put their new skills into practice.

Digging Deep Into Scripture

One of the highlights of the first two weekends was our time spent studying the story of Joshua. Together, we explored how to uncover the main message of the biblical text and apply it faithfully. Every participant



was motivated, attentive, and willing to wrestle with the material. It was a joy to watch them work deeply and carefully, truly desiring to “get it right.”

Alongside our Bible sessions, we introduced new sports and activities including “Run Buddy Run” and discovered hidden creativity through theatrical challenges and team exercises. These moments of fun and exploration helped strengthen relationships and build confidence.

Hope for the Future

I am especially encouraged by the young leaders from the new Youngstars group in Skoczów. They have embraced the training wholeheartedly, and we pray that what they have learned will help them grow into even stronger, more confident leaders for their group.

We thank God for guiding us through this year of growth and for every young person who took a step forward in leadership and faith.

When memories turn into legacy: The 20-Year celebration

Rahela Năstasă, Member of Micii Exploratori Cisnădie

October 4, 2025. A rather cold day or at least that’s how it seemed on the way to Purtătorii de Făclie. With snow-covered mountains and yet a clear sky, we were dressed in thick layers so we wouldn’t freeze, especially since we were going to spend the whole day outside. “We’re going to Micii Exploratori, after all,” I told my friends while explaining why I had packed extra sweaters. Well...the sweaters stayed in the car. Maybe because God gave us such beautiful weather that we didn’t need them, but also because of the warmth with which we were welcomed there. Smiles were everywhere, laughter echoed around us, and you could hear phrases like, “It’s been so long since I last saw you!” or “I’m so happy to see you, how have you been?”



After all the greetings, the celebration began, and what a beautiful celebration it was! We started with an ice-breaker, of course. We tested our musical abilities while keeping the rhythm dictated by Beni, the whole tent filled with the rustling of the colorful bags we held in our hands. Then we split into smaller groups and got to know each other better. I had the chance to meet people who had joined the ministry from the very beginning. All I can say is that I was amazed by the perseverance and determination of those who, twenty years ago, believed

in Micii Exploratori and carried the mission forward. I noticed this also through the photos displayed in the pavilion. I saw pictures from camps when I myself was a participant and photos of those who had been my leaders as they themselves were participants in training or weekend events organized by Micii Exploratori. As I looked at those photos, I realized how blessed I was to have had such beautiful childhood experiences through Micii Exploratori. I silently prayed that I too would be a blessing for the children in our local club, just as others



had been for me. We talked, took photos, ate fire-cooked dessert, watched an intense football match (I can't remember the name of the game), and shared memories just like friends do.

Later in the evening, we had a moment of praise and worship, a moment when we all turned our eyes toward the One who made everything possible. The tent resounded with voices praising and glorifying God's name; prayers of thanksgiving and adoration rose from

sincere and grateful hearts. Then Daniel Horst spoke, sharing an encouraging message. Personally, I was especially touched by the final part of his message. The presentation ended with a song whose lyrics say something like this:

"I remember it as if it were yesterday, when I prayed for a miracle, afraid to even hope a little; and looking back today, seeing all the things You have done—I cannot

even count them; one, two, up to infinity, the numbers would still not be enough before I could thank You for everything."

And as those lyrics played in the background, I thought about what it must feel like to look around and see nearly 200 people who share the same desire to bring the Gospel to the children of Romania. What it feels like to remember Romania from twenty years ago, a Romania that more than half the room never knew, with all its challenges and struggles, and yet to continue the work God placed on your heart. And then I thought about the beauty of this: that after twenty years, you can stand before God and thank Him for everything, for the victories and for the moments when you were close to giving up. To see the people you trained, to continue the work and to know that the legacy you leave behind stretches across generations.

The evening didn't end before we honored those who have stood and still are standing behind the ministry, the people behind the scenes who poured in their time, energy, and resources so that the camps and gatherings of Micii Exploratori could take place.

I believe that October 4th, was more than a celebration but a day of remembering all the blessings God has poured over Micii Exploratori in the last twenty years—and an encouragement that His goodness will continue.

A Year of pressure and a miracle of renewal

Nikolay Niuniaiev, National Coordinator Ukraine

The year 2025 brought new challenges to Ukraine. Military pressure from the aggressor country intensified, and the government introduced stricter mobilization policies. Suddenly, even men serving faithfully in churches, men who only a year earlier never imagined they

would be affected, found themselves facing the possibility of military service.

Many began moving cautiously, hiding from the authorities. For some, simply crossing their own city be-

came risky. Strangely, and for reasons still unclear, the government did allow men aged 18–24 to leave the country, triggering yet another wave of emigration. These changes struck the church deeply, especially children’s ministry, where many leaders and volunteers were directly affected. For Youngstars Ukraine, this quickly became the greatest challenge of the year.

Despite all obstacles, we witnessed God’s unmistakable blessing in the Odesa region. A children’s club at a local church dormant for years came back to life. This renewal was the fruit of long-term discipleship and training among local youth, a process we began three years before the full-scale invasion.

For a long time, we could only conduct Introduction Training. But this year, by God’s grace, we finally held a Basic Training, gathering over 40 participants, many of whom were young people we had mentored from the very beginning.

We had dreamed about this for years. The last Basic Training took place in 2016. Since then, the Youngstars work in Ukraine had endured changes, trials, and — in 2022 — complete destruction of everything we had built. We had to begin again. And in 2025, God allowed us to experience a long-awaited new beginning.



Challenge 1: Finding a Safe Place

The first question was simple — and complicated: Where can we safely hold the training? We needed a place without bombardment, with stable water access and far from military infrastructure. And God reminded us of our old partners, a church with

whom we had once organized camps before the war. In 2024, we held small trainings and a camp on their property and realized: This is the place. A quiet village by the liman, far from strategic targets, peaceful enough for learning and ministry and so, preparations began.



Challenge #2: Finding Trainers

Only two fully trained Youngstars instructors were still in Ukraine. Bringing in foreign trainers was far too dangerous. Still, in faith, we planned a training for 20 participants. But when registration opened, more than 40 people signed up — ages 15 to 60. And instead of panic, our faith grew.

We didn’t even realize how unrealistic it was: two instructors teaching a week-long course for forty people. Today, it sounds almost impossible. But God had already prepared the way — sending financial support and a professional cook, whose help cut expenses so much that our budget could cover twice as many participants as planned. Encouraged by this, we pressed forward.

Challenge 3: The Weather

Then came the rain. Rain when we arrived. Rain as we set up tents. Rain while preparing the grounds. Days of rain and a forecast of more. But the moment the students arrived... the rain stopped. Not everywhere — just around us. It was a miracle.

We started the training exactly as scheduled with no plan B. Overnight, the ground dried, and the next day’s hike took place under perfect skies. For the teams, the training became an unforgettable adventure. Many were surprised to discover how different club ministry could be:

- outdoor lessons
- nature-based games
- Bible study through real-life experience
- and the powerful Team Project that challenged everyone

Participants later shared that the six days felt like a month — a month of laughing, learning, struggling and growing together. The experience changed perspectives, especially for adults, who found the shift in ministry philosophy both challenging and inspiring.

This is why we are now preparing to launch Leadership Training next year — and people are already eager to join.

His Miracle, His Victory

Looking back, we still marvel at how such a small team managed to accomplish this. The only answer is simple: It was God's miracle. His victory.

This training also strengthened young leaders from two Odesa clubs and encouraged the team from a Mykolaiv region. They had planted a club after last year's Introduction Training.



Now, with renewed hope, we are planning a Leadership Training in 2026 and praying for opportunities to open new clubs across Ukraine — even as our nation and churches continue facing enormous trials.

Through everything, God has carried us. And He continues to open doors no human could open.

Events

05.01. – 10.01.2026

Kids camp, São Paulo, Brazil

16.–18.01.2026

Introductory training Moldova

23.–25.01.2026

Introductory training Cuba

13.–17.02.2026

Anniversary 10 years Radicais Brazil

13.–15.03.2026

BESJ Team Weekend: Teamwork

28.02.–8.03.2026

Leadership training in Cuba

27.–29.03.2026

Team Weekend Micii Exploratori Romania

Youngstars International

Winkelbachstrasse 7
CH-9000 St. Gallen
info@youngstarsint.org

Euro bank account

IBAN CH20 0900 0000 9106 2220 6
Bank account number 91-62220-6
BIC POFICHBEXXX

CHF bank account

IBAN CH83 0900 0000 8926 2592 3
Bank account number 89-262592-3
BIC POFICHBEXXX



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