Yes, there really is a Transylvania
A part of the Kingdom of Hungary for 1,000 years, the 94K square mile region was ceded to Romania after WWI. Thus the turbulent history of the largest ethnic Hungarian minority living outside the borders of present-day Hungary began. Sadly, the legacy includes the communist regime’s systematic campaign, lasting decades, to forcibly assimilate the 1.5 million-strong community.
Despite facing many obstacles since the 1989 fall of communism, the Hungarian community is vibrant and thriving; a significant cultural, economic and political force in Romania, reaching new heights in their centuries-old traditions of excellence.
Yes, “Count Dracula,” Bela Lugosi, hailed from a Hungarian village called Lugos, but Transylvania is so much more. A place of immense, natural beauty, living folk culture and traditions not found elsewhere in Europe, it is a true multi-ethnic region. Transylvania’s rich and proud heritage includes being the first place in history to declare religious tolerance in 1568.

Support this amazing opportunity
The scholarship is funded entirely through donations and the in-kind contribution of our partner in Transylvania. The six-month cost for one recipient is $6,000, not including the transatlantic airfare.
Contributions by check, credit card or Paypal are gratefully accepted and tax-deductible. To make your online gift please visit https://reconnecthungary.org/donate and indicate ReConnect Transylvania+ in the comment field.

Sponsor Spotlight
A hearty welcome to our new sponsor, the Mikó Restaurant/Étterem in Kolozsvár (Cluj), serving authentic Hungarian cuisine in a cozy, downtown setting.

Our Partners in Transylvania
ReConnect Transylvania+ has partnered with the educational institutions of the Hungarian Reformed Church (Transylvanian District) and proven non-profits eager to offer maximum exposure for the recipients. Our list of partners is continually expanding and currently includes the Hungarian Reformed College, Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ), Sapientia – Hungarian University of Transylvania, Székely Mikó High School, Bonus Pastor Foundation (social services, rehabilitation), the LAM Foundation (business and financial services), summer agricultural work at a farm in Magyarázó, and Saint Francis orphanage in Csíkszereda.
ReConnect Transylvania+ immerses American and Canadian young adults of Hungarian background in Transylvanian-Hungarian communities for a 3-6 month period. The program is a natural extension of our Reconnect Hungary and ReConnect Transylvania birthright programs.

What does the Scholarship provide?
The scholarship provides room & full board in the selected school’s facilities, and a stipend to cover local transportation costs in Transylvania. Your internship at the NGO is unpaid, and you make your own travel arrangements from the United States/Canada to Romania. Our local program coordinator, based in Kolozsvár (Cluj), provides guidance and assistance.

Duration of the Scholarship
The Program coordinates with the academic calendar in Transylvania. High School semesters are September 15 – February 1 and February 15 – June 15. The semesters in higher education institutions are October 1 – December 21 and February 1 – May 31. Recipients arrive a few days before the semester begins. There is flexibility for participants to stay on.

Where will you teach and intern?
The Program aims to match participants with educational institutions and volunteer organizations best suited to their talents and goals, the hosts’ needs, and the time period chosen. Kolozsvár/Cluj is the unofficial capital of Transylvania, a cultural and educational hub, with 350,000 residents. Marosvásárhely/Targu Mures is medium-sized; while the Székely towns of Sepsiszentgyörgy/Sfântu Gheorghe (54,000), Csekszördé/ Miercurea Ciuc (42,000) and Székelyudvarhely/ Odorhei Secuiesc (34,000) are smaller, rural cities.

Applying for the Scholarship
Submit the following information in one Word document:
2. One-page motivational letter describing your (a) Hungarian background and involvement in local Hungarian organizations, if any, (b) how you think you will be able to best contribute, and (c) how this Program fits in with your personal and professional goals.

In addition, please provide a resume which contains your contact information, educational background and work experience, and a passport-sized photo.

Send your email to: info@reconnecthungary.org with the subject line: Application for ReConnect Transylvania+ scholarship. Hungarian-language ability for this program is not required. We encourage you to take Hungarian or Romanian language classes.

Sarah Carroll 2019 Scholarship Recipient
Sarah is a third generation Hungarian-American. She completed her degree in Political Science at the University of Florida. Sarah teaches and mentors at the Hungarian Reformed College in Kolozsvár. She is also interning at the Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania (RMDSZ). Sarah posts weekly vlogs about her journey. Follow her YouTube channel.

Sarah Agronow 2019 Scholarship Recipient
Sarah is a third generation Hungarian-American. She taught and mentored at the Hungarian Reformed College in Kolozsvár beginning February 2019.

Lianna Hedrick 2018 Scholarship Recipient
Lianna is a third generation Hungarian-American originally from Michigan. In fall 2018, Lianna taught at the Hungarian Reformed College in Kolozsvár.