

Annual Report 2020

At the General Assembly on 19th September 2019 in Bern, Dr Giacomo Montagna was elected President. We knew his strengths, in the interest of pretac+ Switzerland, and that he would go to New York to continue his education. Our president was involved in the strategy, while Chrystèle Schoenlaub and Marcel Niederer took care of the operational side.

The original plan to launch a pilot project in both Geneva and Zurich had to be abandoned quickly. Too many resources, both financial and administrative, would have been tied up. As an active group was already working in Geneva and had received substantial donations, the Board decided to give priority to the Geneva project and to wait with further activities in Switzerland.

All efforts are concentrated on the Geneva project. In addition to the well-known difficulties related to the COVID pandemic, the Geneva pilot project is the first in Europe according to new standards of discovering hands[®]. Not only did the contracts and documents have to be adapted to Geneva and Swiss conditions, but the processes were not yet perfect. Furthermore, discovering hands[®] did not have enough capacity to support the Geneva project in 2020. Since January 2021, the situation has improved significantly, and the support is there.

So Chrystèle Schoenlaub and Marcel Niederer dedicated most of their activities to the Geneva pilot project. But as we will see later in the Geneva Association's report, it was worth it.

In late autumn 2019, we thought that the existing pretac+ CH unit would be sufficient to launch the pilot project in Geneva and introduce the discovering hands[®] method under its umbrella. However, it soon became apparent that the unfavourable decision of the Zurich cantonal and city authorities not to recognise pretac+ CH as a non-profit association was a major obstacle in raising funds. For this reason, pretac+ Geneva was

founded in November 2019. And indeed, the Geneva tax authorities have recognised its non-profit status, allowing donors to benefit from the deductibility of their donations.

Nevertheless, pretac+ CH acts as an umbrella organisation and the entire infrastructure supporting the current Geneva project is centralised at pretac+ CH. This includes the accounting, the website, the newsletter, the email service with pretac.ch email addresses, and the SharePoint and MS Teams collaboration platforms. This was done with the aim of being able to use them for other projects in Switzerland.

Step by step - first the Geneva pilot project, then in other Swiss cantons.

We look to the future with hope, thanks to the successes in Geneva, and believe in the idea of discovering hands[®].

Marcel Niederer



info@pretac.ch



<https://www.pretac.ch>



IBAN CH46 0840 1000 0633 9442 1
Migros Bank AG, Clearing 8401,
pretac+ verein für taktile vorsorge
schweiz