

Dear Friends and Supporters,

How wonderful it has been again this year to have your support, encouragement and prayers. Your compassion and help has made it possible for Sylvia, a baby abandoned 3

years ago in the hospital, to now be adopted. She has been adopted into a Romanian family that loves her very much, and because of your generosity she now has a permanent family and hope for a bright future.

Codi, who continues to blossom, is vivacious and is now very talkative and always singing. She is developing into a normal and happy child. Her joy is a blessing.

Andrea had eye surgery in the summer; the surgeon was very happy with the outcome and said she now has new eyes. She is learning rapidly and her vocabulary is growing daily. She is a bubbly and fun-loving toddler.

This past summer, laws were voted in by the Romanian government to completely close international adoptions and also now make it almost impossible for even a Romanian family to adopt an abandoned child. Because of this, as well as the visits of two Canadian women this year and the results of them working with abandoned babies in the hospital, my focus has broadened to provide care to these babies, along with maintaining a home for Codi and Andrea.

Helena Van Zeggelen from Ottawa, Canada came for 3 months during the winter and worked with a baby in the hospital who was starving to death; she vomited every feeding because bottles are only propped with blankets in the babies' mouths without regard for the baby's needs. They are not burped nor held so a lot of babies can't keep their food down. Helena held the baby, fed her with care and love and she is now thriving beautifully in a foster family.

Genevieve Lenney from Penticton, Canada came for a month this past summer and fed the babies properly as well. Her love and care brought smiles to babies who had never smiled before. The

work of these two incredible women showed me what can be accomplished for abandoned babies in the hospital.

Knowing that Sylvia is one of the last babies to be adopted because of the new laws, and how desperate the situation is for abandoned babies in the hospital, I decided to have my main worker, Mia Bartos, work full time with these babies during the week, and a student to work there weekends. I have hired needy

students to help at home.

Cristian, two months old, and Carmen, eight months old are keeping weight on despite poor quality food and lack of attention. But others like Stefan, Florentina, Cristi, Aurica, Viorel, and Sabina are not doing well at all.

Sabina is four months old; she had been crying continuously for which Mia never received an answer from the nurses. She tried supplementing Sabina's bottle with cereal that we are able to buy from your kind donations, and Sabrina no longer cries from hunger.

Another example of the lack of care these babies receive in the hospital is Stefan, two months old, who is becoming thinner every week. One of the assistants won't let Mia hold and feed him to make sure his milk stays down, and Mia regularly finds his bed wet with vomit.



Andrea, Sylvia and Codi



Sylvia



Codi



Andrea



Mia and Stephan - 2 months



Cristian - 2 months

Cristi, who has a very cheerful personality at eight months old, has a cleft palate. His outer lip is fixed and he needs an operation for the inside of his mouth. Because he eats slowly and with so much difficulty, he needs to be fed and not have the bottle propped up with blankets.

Florentina, is six months old and weighs 8 pounds; she is a very sad baby but has begun to smile at Mia in the last few days. She

has lung problems and a cracked tongue; therefore, feeding her requires a lot of patience.

Aurica, is 14 months old, she weighs 14 pounds and was very neglected when Mia started to care for her. When we first met Viorel he was a month and a half old, and his head was completely covered with sores. He was abandoned because he is handicapped. His legs are in casts, and his arms were said to be paralyzed but with Mia doing physiotherapy on him, which she learned from a visiting American therapist, he can now move his right hand to his mouth. His

fingers on both hands were contracted shut, but with warm water and massage, they have released. We met a little girl with Viorel's condition and who after 3 operations is now walking. Surgery is not a possibility for him, as he's abandoned and there's no one to pay. We want to fight for him, and offer to pay for the operations to give

him a chance to walk.

Sabina needs surgery on her skull which we're trying to bring about, as there's no one to pay for her either.

Because of your caring and generosity, these babies are being helped; they are being fed more, given vitamin drops, changed regularly, and most importantly, they are loved. With your support we can continue this important work with these and other needy children.

I have also started to work with destitute children in a poor village. I am teaching them English to give them hope for a better future.

The longer I am in this country, the more

need I see and the more thankful I am to you for helping the people here. These words of the late Henri J.M. Nouwen are an inspiration for me:

The joy that compassion brings is one of the best-kept secrets of humanity. It is a secret known only to a very few people, a secret that has to be rediscovered over and over again.

Again this year I had uplifting visits from family members Mom, Paul and Debbie. Many, many thanks to my family and to you all. Your support and love encourage me, as well as so many others here, and God gives me the grace and the strength to carry on.

God bless you all,

With love, Kathy

For a tax receipt, please make a cheque out to St. Olave's Anglican Church, 360 Windermere Ave. Toronto, ON M6S 3L4, and write "Kathy Langston's missionary support" on it. Thank you again for your kindness.*

**Tax receipts are issued once a year.*



Mia and Christi - 8 months



Kathy and Florentina - 6 months



Viorel - 2 months



Carmen - 8 months



Kathy and Aurica - 14 months

For more photos, visit
Lauren Hastie's website at
www.hosannachildren.ca