

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Your love, prayers and generosity continue to bless abandoned children in Romania. What a difference this makes to each child, day by day.

Our children are growing! Codi now 7 years old is in grade 1 and Andrea who is 6 years old is in kindergarten. Codi being extremely active, loves school because she is in an alternative program which permits movement in the classroom. Here she will have her strengths and talents developed, rather than be required to write endless pages perfectly. Last evening when I was mending clothes she decided she wanted to sew too. She picked up a needle threaded it, then made stitches in her scarf and doll clothes. She has a lot of confidence in herself and says "if you have a problem, just call Codi!"



Kathy with Codi and Andrea



Codi now climbing trees



Andrea doing what she likes best

Andrea has found her voice, performing just as loudly as Codi when they do skits in the living room. Andrea loves picking flowers and playing with her tractor. She builds intelligent buildings with her blocks and she loves painting. I am still in the process of adopting these 2 girls who I've had since they were babies.

On the section with the abandoned handi-capped children in the Children's Hospital where we work, our babies have become toddlers and those who can't walk are making wonderful progress emotionally. The hospital psychologist is full of praise for our women saying it's only their dedicated work and love that has the children developing as they are. Ioana who is blind is now walking by herself holding on to cribs as she goes,

and Anca who is also blind is walking completely alone, even out into the hall until she is caught! She is climbing too, up the crib rails and up and down from chairs. Every day Anca makes the rounds visiting her friends.

Evelin likes the presence of others. Her crib is beside Levente's and she likes to put

her head so that it's beside his, and then she talks to him. Dorina has taken Evelin outside; now Evelin knows the direction and asks to go. The children have their own wordless language that our women understand, though Ioana, Anca and Kevin are saying "mama" now. Evelin laughs with strength, is able to sit holding her head up and play with her toys for long periods. She now has the weight to be able to tolerate surgery for her cleft palate. This is what we want to do next for Evelin.



Codi and Andrea with Mom/Buni



Dorina with Evelin



Anisoara with Anca conquering another chair!



Rodica with Soledad

Soledad is not as rigid and is moving more and more in bed. She has progressed from a motionless, paralysed baby to a little child who lifts her upper body in response to Rodica's call. Being blind, Soledad can't see her "mama" when she's coming, but calls out with eagerness in response to Rodica's voice.



Lia and Emi

The children's development is beautiful to see, but more beautiful to see is their happiness – the way Anca throws her arms around our legs and hugs us, the way Kevin and Soledad smile in anticipation when we walk into the room knowing that they're going to be loved, the way Marius absolutely beams when we approach him, the joy Evelin and Ioana exhibit in playing with their toys. The children's happiness makes people just want to come into our rooms and be there with them. Love is beautifully contagious.



Vera with Edith and Gheorghe

Some wonderful news about Viorel, an abandoned baby that we took care of in 2005. He was a paralysed baby with deformed limbs and the medical staff said there was no hope for him. Our women did exercises with him and we provided for his first foot surgery. Being very loved, he made amazing progress and a British foundation took him into one of their houses for handicapped children. He had more surgery and is now walking and even running! He is very bright and now has the life of any child, because we were the beginning of the miracle in his life.

Baby abandonment is still happening in Romania despite Romania's joining the European Union. Also very sad is the multiple abandonment that happens. Babies are abandoned at birth in the maternity hospital then if foster families are not found for them they are often sent over to the Children's Hospital. They stay for a period then are taken to their homes if addresses are known by hospital staff, often to be brought back and abandoned again. This is the case of Edith to whom this has happened 5 times in her short life.



Irma holding Florentina

When she comes back she has Vera's and Irma's loving arms waiting for her.

As we go into our 9th year of work with abandoned children we are so encouraged by your support and your help. We all appreciate your help and prayers. Please know that we pray for you too. Without you, all these and other children's lives would be bleak and hopeless. Thank you for the happiness you allow them to have.

God bless you,
love, Kathy



Kathy with Kevin

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.

See www.hosannachildren.ca for more photos and information.