

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thanks to your prayers and financial support we have had another loving year taking care of abandoned babies. Most babies are abandoned in the hospital starving, dehydrated and malnourished. We provide cereal, bananas and yogurt and they quickly recover. Many babies are brought in sick and left, others supposedly sick and left. We help with buying medicine and treatments which the hospital runs out of or doesn't have.

We've bought thousands of diapers over these past 16 years. I remember these many years ago volunteering in the hospital with babies who were wet up to their necks, lying neglected on wet

mattresses. Since then we have helped so many babies become healthy and strong, and emotionally stable being so loved by our women Vera and Dora. The food, medicine and diapers which you provide are crucial to the babies' well being, and it is our women's love also provided by you, which restores them to life.

Dorina, Zorita, Rodica and Cornelia continue to give their devotion to the abandoned handicapped children they work with in the state group homes. Many children benefit from their work. I'll tell you here about just 2 of them. Little Sebi has made great progress. His paralyzed limbs are as stiff as wood, but regular massaging has given him the ability to move. He now moves from side to side in his bed, and has started to be able to sit. He is extremely happy when worked with and talked to! Being loved has given him a state of well-being, his appetite has improved and he has started to grow. Emotional health leads to physical health.

Roxana who has other disabilities and who had no muscle control is now happy being able to hold herself up in the walker, hold her bottle and can move her legs. Massaging has helped her so much that she can now grab toys with her legs! Being mostly up in the walker, she likes to reach out and touch others near her.

When our women arrive in the morning it is a time of joy for the children. The ones who can, call out "mami" and the ones who can't simply call out with sounds. As well as receiving affection these children need to have someone to hug and kiss too. Cornelia likes to create an environment of calm and creativity. In this environment the children co-operate and feel safe. We provide materials necessary for the children to colour and create, and for our older children who can't talk, this is fundamental to their development. One day recently Cornelia heard Florina crying with pain. She got her listening to music and this simple act of kindness cheered the child up instantly. The children need to be paid attention to and listened to so that they feel valued and their self-esteem can grow.

These last couple of months some of our children have been in the hospital for investigation and procedures. It is a frightening experience for them being alone there with almost no help. Cornelia and Rodica have given Lionel, Sami and Amalia hours of help and comfort.



*Codi, Kathy and Andrea*



*Vera and 3 1/2 month old Florin*



*Our group home team Zorita and Dorina with Cornelia, David and Rodica. (we're not allowed to take pictures of the children)*



Dora with 4 1/2 month old very sick  
Suzana

Looking back on this past year, David says it has been one of joy, that all his effort and work with the abandoned teenage boys “finds itself again in them”. He sees that in spite of their unfortunate situations and their varying intellectual disabilities, they want to arrive somewhere with their lives and change things.

So much is a learning experience for them. Board games, computer games, ping pong, soccer in the park, outings in town, shopping to buy food to supplement their poor diet, all have the boys learning relationship skills. As well as working together in the garden, pruning trees and doing house repairs, David got them involved in a special project this year building a brick BBQ. Grilling the traditional sausages and making toast is a highlight for them. David continues to take some of the more capable boys out for days of work to know how it is to earn money and buy things they need. They will one day have to manage in life. Taking them to church and youth group has had a significant positive impact in their lives.

The boys see David as a role model they haven't seen before. He is among them, receptive to their needs, listening to them with compassion and understanding. These boys like all children deserve to be loved and appreciated for who they are.

Two and a half years ago, Codi and Andrea and I got involved with the children from the orphanage in town. It is very sad that an institution like this still exists. We see serious consequences of children living in this stark environment, the most serious being that the young children are so negatively influenced by the older ones and that the staff works in constantly changing shifts. We have bonded with 7 children and bring home 5 or 6 every weekend. The children love to come to our apartment to have the freedom to play, do craft activities, ride scooters, drink as much milk as they want and celebrate each others' birthdays. Florina now 9 years old has recently learned to play with dolls and dollhouses. Spending half of her life in institutions with no toys, she didn't learn how to play. It took a long time for the boys to learn to play with cars. It is such a beautiful sight to see 8 year old Loli curled up on the couch with a book. He really misses books living at the orphanage.

Thank you so very much for the love and support you are sending over to Romania which we pass on to abandoned babies and children. You are making it possible for them to live their lives knowing that someone cares.

God bless you, love

Kathy

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



*Celebrating Crisit's 9th birthday with our weekend  
orphanage children*



*Kathy and 3 1/2 month old Adina*

See [www.hosannachildren.ca](http://www.hosannachildren.ca) for  
more photos and information.