

Dear Friends and Supporters,

You have given another wonderful year of food, education, love and guidance to Romanian children suffering from poverty. Your prayers and financial support are bringing deep change and hope to children, their families and their village.

Carmen with 25 children in grades 5 to 8, and Emilia with 25 children from kindergarten to grade 4 are with us again this year, giving individual

after school teaching. Education is seriously affected by poverty. The children come to the Centre in the afternoon for their daily hot meal and in a warm environment of affection and encouragement, they are taught what they don't understand at school. They receive donated clothes and school supplies. There are 10 children who go to high school in the city and they come as well for food, help, clothes and school supplies.

Emanuel, who is 8 and whose mother has mental difficulties, depends on the Centre for homework help, for love and support, and for food because there's not enough to eat at

home. He has health problems because of the extremely poor conditions at home. Matei is 6 and his father is in prison. His mother has emotional difficulties and came to the Centre asking that we take care of Matei because only with us will he get guidance, and a good education, and not end up like his father.

Iulia is 12 and has many problems. Her mother abandoned her early in life. Iulia needs hugs every day, to talk and to be affirmed. She had stopped growing and looks like an 8 year old. The doctor said that because Iulia is at the Centre in such a loving environment, her growth medication is working.

Ten year old Alesia was abandoned by her father and needs a lot of daily repetition of her lessons to learn. She loves to help in the kitchen and on days when she has less homework, she helps prepare the food. Her mother can't read so Alesia reads to her.

Darius is 11 and wants to learn new things. About to fail grade 3, he started coming to the Centre and is doing so well at school that he's among the best in the class. His mother is delighted that he's passed grade 4 because she can't

help him with his homework and she wants him to stay in school. He loves to be at the farm and fish in the pond and talk with Marius. Having an alcoholic father, he is spending more and more time with Marius.

Counseling is an important part of our children's development. They talk about their unmet needs to Oana and Marius, our devoted social workers. The young children that are maturing and those nearing adolescence require daily guidance to help with their problems. A group of young people from the village has formed around Marius, becoming very attached to him and coming for advice.



Matei



Iulia



Alesia



Darius

The children learn valuable lessons at our farm. It is a place where they become responsible and learn how important hard work is, and they get to see the benefits of it. This is where their milk, eggs and fresh healthy meat come from.

Our Centre has become known by the community as “the place of good deeds.” Over the years, Oana and Marius have helped many people get old age and disability pensions. It is hard for the very poor and isolated to get this help. Oana told me about a 12 year old disabled boy who has been in bed since he was 3. There was no money to get to the doctor and his health had deteriorated badly. Oana and Marius took him to the hospital and before a commission, and now the mother gets money to survive and he gets physiotherapy, counseling and online school.

They just helped Gheorghe who is 67 with a mental disability and who had a stroke get on a pension so he can have an income and be able to buy medicine. Ioan who is 66 has a serious lung condition and can't work anymore. He and his sick wife often went hungry.

Oana and Marius took food weekly so they wouldn't starve, until they succeeded in getting this couple pensions.

Currently they have put 10 files before the commission for pensions for people who have nothing and who are sick. There are some adults who occasionally come to the Centre and ask for a plate of food when they have nothing to eat at home. Every day there are people who come to the Centre with their problems and needs.

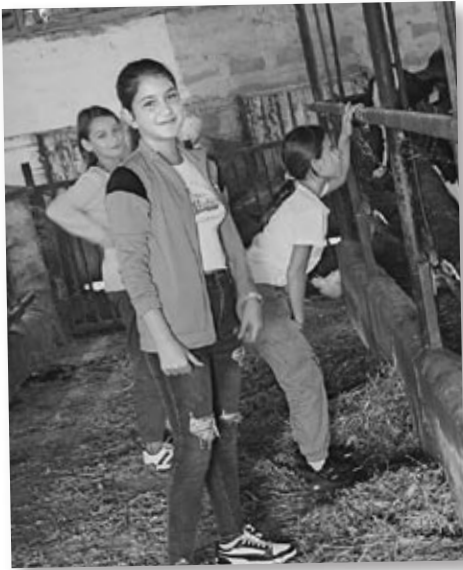
St. Olave's can't give tax receipts anymore so we have a new partner with the Canadian National Christian Foundation who will. They are supporting us in our mission to stop the impact of poverty.

Each child and family who comes to the Centre has a story of hardship and sadness, and the effects of poverty can be devastating. But we are changing all this with your help!

God bless you, with love,

Kathy

Kathy



For a tax receipt, please make the cheque payable to Canadian National Christian Foundation, 89 Auriga Drive, Ottawa, ON K2E 7Z2 with “Hosanna Children” on the memo line. For the link to give online, please go to our website www.hosannachildren.ca on the How You Can Help page. We can still be in touch as I can see the contributions. Thank you for your kindness.

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