

NEWS FROM AURORA CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, VULCAN, ROMANIA – March 2020

Praise Points:

- * Provision of finances for aid transport & on-going sponsorship
- * Further renovations in the canteen
- * Provision of the funds to enable Ionut & Roxana to re-build following the awful fire
- * Successful running of all clubs, kindergartens & canteen
- * Provision of funds to fit a new boiler in Casa Betel
- * We thank God for everyone of you who supports this work in Romania

Prayer Points:

- * Pray for protection during this time with the Coronavirus and to enable people to stand against fear
- * Pray that Nelu would be able to continue to resolve all the legal paperwork regarding the land at the back of the ACA properties
- * Pray for the holiday clubs and activities being run over Easter, including team visits from Christian Fellowship School, Liverpool and the Rainbow Project, Plymouth
- * Finances for on-going projects, particularly school transport sponsorship, building, Association house repairs & on-going maintenance

Thank you once again for all your support.
Malcolm, Paul, Anna & Irene

On-going Needs:

- Household size packets or tins of food
- Babies, children's, and teens clothes
- Baby milk powder, baby bottles, dummies, sudocream, calpol, teething gel,
- Soup or cereal bowls, large plates, mugs, cutlery
- Good saucepans, NOT too small
- Prams, Buggies, Cots
- School Requisites
- School Uniforms
- School Shoes (sizes 10-7)
- Simple Medicines (Paracetamol & Ibuprofen)
- Sponsorship (canteen, workers, school bus money etc)
- Toiletries

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“I will sing, yes, I will sing praises! Awake, my glory! Awake, harp and lyre!
I will awaken the dawn. I will give thanks to You, O Lord, among the peoples;
I will sing praises to You among the nations.
For Your lovingkindness is great to the heavens and Your truth to the clouds.
Be exalted above the heavens, O God; Let Your glory be above all the earth.”
Psalm 57 v 7-11



Paul & I have just returned from a whirlwind, quick visit to Romania, but have returned full of positivity, and all the projects are going so well. There is also vision for the future of the work. However we have just received news that the state has instructed all schools and state kindergartens to close because of the Coronavirus, so we have followed this advice and closed the 2 kindergartens and canteen for a couple of weeks.

Numbers in the canteen have risen slightly, following the previous decline of children due to being provided with meals at school. Some of these projects have come to an end so the kids are eating back at the canteen. We've actually seen a slight increase in the number of Romanian families eating with us, which has been surprising. This gives us contact with many new families in the village.

We were able to send out a 'second hand' 6 burner cooker from Rora to the canteen to replace one of their old ones, and also a gift was given to install a new hot water boiler to service the canteen and the sinks in the downstairs toilets.

As in previous years, a gift was given specifically to make up food bags for the old people, widows and widowers, over the winter months. Miki & Irene had already done the shopping by the time we arrived, so I was able to help Irene make up the bags, consisting of basic supplies—flour, polenta, oil, tomato paste, pasta, rice, jam, stock cubes etc. We regularly make up bags to support approx. 40 old people. This is an on-going project, if you would like to support this project please let us know.



← Bags ready to be collected
↓ Nice full Store Cupboard, ready to pack bags



As we were only in Romania for a short time, we packed in lots of visiting! Here is a quick update on who we visited and progress on projects:



As reported in the previous newsletter, the little house for Eugenia is now complete, although we had not seen it for ourselves. We visited, along with Irene and Lela, and were so pleased with what had been achieved here. The house was clean, Gheorge had a little fire going to keep Eugenia warm, she was tucked up in bed. Gheorge visits the canteen every day (when it is open) to get food for them both. One thing Eugenia could hugely benefit from is proper incontinence pants. If anyone would like to buy these or provide funds for these this would be great. At the moment we only have the sheets that go on the top of the mattress.

Obviously the big news from the end of last year was the fire at Ionut & Roxana's house. Caused by a BBQ in the neighbours garden which hadn't been put out properly, their house was completely destroyed and the old peoples house lost its roof. We are so thankful to God that no-one was in the house when the fire broke out. Thank you to the massive response of you all to send funds to enable them to re-build their house. Due to unseasonable weather, and not much snow, they've been able to get on with the building. With the funds received all the building materials were purchased and Ionut provided all the labour. Ionut & Roxana are both SO grateful to everyone who gave so generously.



Nelu came with us to visit the 2 house building projects in the neighbouring village of Tauhan. Nelu is so familiar with all the rules and regulations, and also the best way to go about what we want to achieve. Unfortunately there are many complications for the build project for Meralina, too many to go into, but we have offered them 2 building options, and we wait to hear back from them. We have left the ball in their court.



By contrast at Mariana's in Tauhan, the family greeted us with love and affection, and Nelu decided the best thing here was not to try and re-furbish a falling down room, but to build a new room, as they have a large plot of land. As with Ionut's build, we will provide the funds for the materials and the family will provide the labour, overseen by Nelu. We are thankful to the Rainbow Project in Plymouth who have provided funds for this project and we're hopeful that this build work will start soon.

You may remember little Adriana, who was born at 27 weeks, and left in the same position in her cot for 6 months, which left her with a deformed head shape, along with other complications from being born so prematurely. With the help of a medical grant from Medical Missionary News, ACA were able to buy a special helmet to help straighten her head and also more recently help with physio. Irene and I visited Adriana, and were so pleased with her progress. She was in a baby walker, but had a fair bit of strength in her legs from the physio she's been having. Fortunately her parents are committed to this little one, and trying to give her the best help possible, although a lot of it is beyond their means. With the help from MMN, ACA will continue to help this family with medical needs when we can.



↑ Irene with Sofia

There is starting to be more recognition for children with special needs. Previously they would be hidden away and ignored, now awareness is growing and people are receiving education. Sofia used to just scream and scream. She has recently been diagnosed with Autism, and now attends a special kindergarten 3 days a week. 2 days are free and her mum has to pay for the other day, including transport. Since being at the kindergarten Sofia's behaviour has improved so much, and her mum is also learning tools and skills to help cope at home.

One urgent need ACA have is for a GP Dr. Dr Chris Sansom has advised us on medical matters up to now, and ordered special medicines in UK (that are cheaper and easier to purchase here), and we are so grateful for the many years Chris has helped ACA. Due to new regulations and the fact that Dr Chris is no longer in practise, she is unable to continue in this role. If any GPs out there are interested in helping ACA, please let us know.