

ECR - EASTER & SPRING UPDATE 2018

It may seem a bit strange to be writing to you about Easter now, but you may know that the Orthodox Church are unorthodox in their celebration of when Easter actually is...so we celebrated it last Sunday.



So that our families could celebrate this time of renewal without the worry of what to give their children to make it a little special, and so that they didn't feel left out...we provided a small package for the ones with smaller children...like for the Stan family below.



You will notice I hope that besides all the ingredients needed for mam to cook a good meal, we have included Easter eggs for the children...well good nutrition is important for physical health, but a little treat is vital for emotional well being, (I never say 'no' to chocolate☺).

And on the subject of 'renewal' I must mention the Stan's home environment. Now if you've been paying attention, as I know you will have been, you will have seen the vast improvement to this family's living conditions...thanks to extra donations from you lovely people earlier this year. Amazing how some plastering and a lick of paint can change your home.

We were able to provide these food/ treat packets to 28 of our families... so Easter was indeed a time of celebration on many levels, spiritually and physically.

We have a full schedule with a variety of programmes/ projects lined up, and we have begun some of them already:

- **'Light-4-Life' Project, (L-4-L).** To offer our older girls an alternative means of income to combat the prospect of being sex-trafficked...a major problem here. The four young women in this project are producing scented candles for sale as the start-up for this cottage industry. ***They are proving very popular but we are having difficulties regarding efficient and cheap methods of transport to UK...but we are still looking into some options***



Mihaela & Ioana: LIGHT-4-LIFE Programme.

- **Counselling/ Therapy programme, (C/TP).** This programme includes **Mother & Baby** counselling, and **Respite Care** for the families with handicapped children.
- **Food Self-Sufficiency Programme,(FSSP)..** To encourage the families to fend for themselves regarding food supply. Cosmin, (Assistant Manager) has already been out delivering some **fertilized eggs to be incubated**, and **some seedlings** to start the families off this year.
- **Mini-Farm Project (MFP):** To provide fresh, organic eggs for some of our families, and a small cottage industry for the David Family.
- **Family Greenhouse programme, (FGH).** ***We already have 18 families within the FGH programme***, and plan another one in the next couple of months. This programme is vital if families are to be totally self sufficient regarding fresh vegetable supply.



Georgie, Alina, Elisa & Steffi – S.G.T. Group

- **Small Group Therapy programme, (SGT).** To offer our younger groups (under 15), the opportunity to meet up and discuss in peer groups any problems they are facing, like **discrimination in school**, or the **early stages of medical fatigue**, (*it's draining to be on this drug regime all your life*).
- It has been inspiring to see the girls & boys being so open and honest with each other about their problems.
- **'Joy in my Heart' programme, (JIMH).** This programme is designed to bring a little joy into the younger children's lives. Included in this programme are; the **Easter treats, Birthday celebrations, Summer Day Trips, (SDTs)**, (June-Sept).
 - **Community Project (CP).** This is our basic project and includes **emergency health interventions, educational supplies**, and social problem interventions.

So there we are...we have all the ingredients for this work to flourish except one... we need the *nourishment* that only YOU can bring, (notice I didn't say we need fertilizer☺).

This is an opportunity for us to grow too...to develop compassion, **the vital thread that binds us together**,,,no matter our colour, creed or financial status, we all believe that **these children, youngsters or families are 'everyone's' responsibility, and deserve a chance for a 'normal independent life'**.

Only with your continued help can we hope to provide the support these innocent and disadvantaged children/ young people deserve, through:

- **the 777-Club,**
- supporting our **2 charity shops,** and
- entering/ sponsoring our annual events, **the walk and cycle marathon,**
- supporting our smaller, more frequent events...**soon to be announced** 😊.



**My deepest thanks, love & blessings to you and yours for your tireless support for our *small but beautifully formed* charity...
EVERYONE'S CHILD ROMANIA 😊**

Paul, Alina, Cosmin & Mihaela x

PS: Cosmin has come up with a great idea for a new project: **'One Tree ⇄ One Life'**. In short we are looking to celebrate the lives of all the children/ youngsters who have passed due to HIV-infection in Constanta county, by planting a tree, (sponsored) in their name. It's in the early development stages yet but looks very promising.