



Dear friends,

A Merry Christmas to each one of you from the Beius orphans and the Staff of Good Samaritan!

As we finish up the 2006 and look ahead to 2007 we try to make an analysis of what was done for the orphans in need for the last 12 months. 2006 has started with a new mission and its summary in the end of the year looks like that:

Providing material help that allows them to live a safe life that meets their basic needs:

FOOD & CLOTHES

8 singles and 4 families were provided with **food and clothes**. For some of them it was long term support till finding a job and becoming stable, for others support given to the whole family in order to get out of debts and poverty.

SHELTER

13 youngsters and their children were accommodated at Good Samaritan **apartments**. For some of them the end of the year brings better living conditions after **renovations** done.

4 girls could move ahead for jobs in Beius and thus live in the new built by GSB group home. **A young orphaned woman** could become a homeowner! **3** more orphans, **beneficiaries** of homes could see the construction of their houses progressing through the **construction program**.

HEALTH

14 youngsters received vital **dental care services** and some other **10** appealed to GSB for **urgent medical services**. A whole population of **54 orphans** living in Beius were offered the possibility to do **full medical checks** and some already started the needed **medical treatment**.

To capitalize on their abilities to move towards self sufficiency:

JOBS, RENTALS & EDUCATION

21 people received help in **searching for job**— loans for med. tests, preparing them for interview, help first month with food money and/or rent money.

6 handicapped girls received **long term services** (food, shelter, life skills

training).

6 youngsters were taken in the **vocational programs** to learn profession.

20 kids received school supplies.

Working proactively in the community to break the cycle of child abandonment due to poverty:

3 mothers and their children were helped with a sponsorship for 1 year.

7 kids of orphans were put in **kinder-garten**. Thus their parents could seek a job, while they have access to education and opportunity to integrate in the local community of children.

The impact the Lord has enabled us to make in the lives of orphans has been well worth the resources. Nevertheless, it is no secret that more investments are required if we are to keep the ministry going in the months ahead.

If you feel lead to come alongside us in our efforts to change orphans lives, we would be most appreciative. Thanks again for your ongoing partnership and many blessings on this Christmas season!

Nikolina Ciorna, ED

Children to whom Santa Claus never came by Elena Cornea

The poverty of population, the illiteracy of mothers and the reduced level of education, the lack of communication between patients and family doctors, as well as the absence of social assistants are just some of the causes, that in Romania, children are abandoned by their mothers in hospitals and maternities just like 30 years ago, and the infant mortality rate is increasing. According to a UNICEF report **4000 of newborn children are abandoned every year, and some other 5000 are "forgotten" in pediatric hospitals**. A study made about abandoned children shows that life in an orphanage restrains both emotional and physical development. Many children brought up in institutions are characterized by a series of risk factors in association



with some disorders.

The young man who lives the institutionalization experience undergoes a series of progressive transformations of personality, changing his own feeling of identity and perception of the others at the same time. Everyone's ego is elaborated in the institutional system's limits. He depends on the institution and he identifies himself with

it, with his fellows and the working personnel.

Year after year hundreds of adolescents come out through the institution gates, many of them less lucky get in the streets, they are the children to whom Santa Claus never came, who do not know what the joy of winter holidays next to a family is. To all this is added the label given by the society, as being from "an orphanage". In most of the cases the young man retains the stigma deep inside and behaves according to the expectations of those who "denigrate" him. The information from the "children's house" brings on discredit, being identified with different attributes, weakness, emotional handicap, lack of responsibility,

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getting even to the idea of delinquent, unborn personality. We also, frequently see these young people's aspirations being in disaccord with their personal abilities. The fear of overcoming their situation, the fear of an imaginary social stigma, the lack of self-confidence, may lead to underestimation.

Dr. James Dobson, a well known American psychologist, shares:

"There is no way to overstate the importance of what is called "infant bonding" between mother and child of either sex. The quality of the relationship will have lifelong implication and can even determine life or death. Mary Carlson, a researcher from Harvard Medical School, recently studied an overcrowded Romanian orphanage, where row upon row of babies lay neglected in their cribs. The staff was hopelessly overworked, so the babies were rarely touched, even when feeding. What struck Carlson was the oppressive silence in the nursery. There was no crying, no babbling, not even a whimper. Upon physical examination administered at age 2, Carlson found that the babies had unusually high amounts of a stress hormone in the blood called cortisol, which in large amounts is known to damage the brain. Growth was stunted and the children acted half their age. Even if they manage to survive, they will never fully recover."

Youth is full of life and freshness, enthusiasm and magnificent aspirations: how is it possible not to love it?

The years of youth can be compared with the period of earth formation when everything is only volcanic eruptions and materials in fusion. Nothing can be created on such an unstable soil. That is why, a bit of moderation, control and harmony must be introduced during youth, in order to become a fertile soil. If not, at maturity, it is going to be only a sterile soil, a deserted land. An example for these two types of soil are the following **two life stories:**

Name: I.F. **Age:** 25

Abandoned after birth and raised in an orphanage.

Education: professional school (10 grades).

Civil status: single

Work place: unemployed

At the age of 25 still needs Good Samaritan to provide her with shelter, doesn't have anything of her own with exception of some personal items, fights with many health problems and faces serious psychological difficulties, showing delayed

development...

Name: D.C. **Age:** 25

Raised in a family, coming from a small village, where the main source of living is the agriculture and the children's education is with less priority. Each family member no matter of age gives his contribution in the work of the land.

Education: elementary school (8 grades).

Civil status: married.

Work place: in a local factory with employment history of 8 years.

At the age of 25 has house in construction, manages the household, takes care of 3 children.

Some young people enjoy the beauty of youth; others would like to forget what happened during childhood and adolescence.

Those who were brought up in an institution did not enjoy childhood too much. And most of them became pessimistic, indifferent or always tormented by impossible desires and dreams.

Be next to us in 2007 too to make the orphans lives a stable soil, a soil on which God can build everything He intended for them to be.

STEP BY STEP ...TO BECOME ONE OF THEM

Independence is characterized as being that state in which the individual thinks and acts freely, without being influenced by the others, on his own initiative. Things are different for the adolescents brought up in orphanages.

They did not take part in any decision, not even in those concerning their private life or future. For example many adolescents told us that they were not asked about the desired education, others decided for them what school and profile to attend. For many years Good Samaritan helped many orphans and offered many opportunities. Only some of them succeeded in taking this chance, but today we talk about one of these young people.

Angi at her 30 years old, succeeded in being employed after many failed attempts. Even if she graduated the vocational program in constructions



she has never worked in this field. She preferred to work for different people, where she felt safe and accepted. This discomfort and the fear of failure is found with all the young

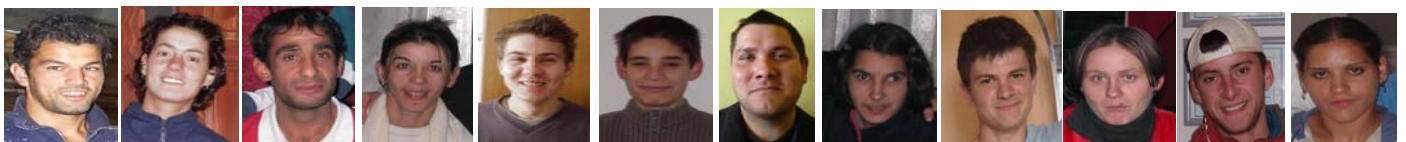
adolescents. Only that some of them overcome the obstacles sooner, some of them later and others never ...

Noticing the dependence on the organization, Good Samaritan decided

to cut off the financial support given if she did not find herself a job in a short time. Advised and guided by the social worker of the organization, Angi managed to get over this obstacle too. Today, not only that she works in a local factory but she has a serious relationship with a young man from the community.

"I am employed since August, I feel good in my new collective. Now I depend no more on anyone, and I know that I have my job. It is different, I feel sorry only for the wasted time ..."

To the group of young people from the photo joined another young woman and this is Angi ...



Mircea Rogz Florin Mioara Feri Elena Mandrut Aranka Remus Irina Radu Silvia

OVERALLS ...FOR GIRLS

by Zamfir Todor



With precise movements, the trowel fills the holes which remained between the gyps-cardboard plates. The material from the pail is prepared by the skillful hands of the two young women and it is turned into walls perfectly plastered and ready to be painted. I know for sure their names. Many of you know Rozi and Gyonghy, the two girls that the overalls fit so well.

It is a big fuss all over the building site of the non-profit Association Habitat for Humanity Cluj, over 100 volunteers are determined to finish all that they had in mind: 3 simple and decent houses just in 5 days! 86 employees of the insurance company AVIVA from 5 countries (Great Britain, SUA, Turkey, Hong Kong and Romania) from three continents united their efforts to bring to a good end this ambitious project.

Materials are transported, thermo isolation is installed, walls are plastered, painted. The enthusiasm and joy of everyone's present give life to the construction which advances

incredibly fast.

I believe you know many things about the partnership between Good Samaritan and Habitat for Humanity. For those who read for the first time about this partnership, I shall tell you that Habitat for Humanity Association helps families that live in inhuman condition to have decent conditions of living. The materials for the construction and the necessary money come from donations and the works are done by many Romanian and foreign volunteers, together with the family future homeowner.

Well, to the poor families and to the volunteers from all over the world, joined also a few young people assisted by Good Samaritan. Many of these young people, including Rozi and Gyonghy, became very good construction workers and are able to build together a house from the ground to the top. This fact helps them trust their own forces, to be on their own and to find a job to let them live better.

These two young girls worked on the house of Maria Gocan's family, a mother who remained in the streets with her two girls, after the man who has been her husband and their father for 18 years, left them for another woman. Maria Gocan, the mother, did not know whom to thank as her house was almost ready: "I lived a nightmare and sometimes I did not know how I was to raise my daughters the following day, what we were to eat, where we were to sleep...I had no one, no one to talk to or to ask for help. Then I used to tell all this to God. **He made this miracle that two orphan girls,**

like my girls who are half orphans, could help me have my own house now. I love Rozi and Gyonghy and my home is always opened for them!"

A mother fought very hard to raise her 2 girls without a father. Other two girls brought up in an orphanage without the warmth of a mother, without the support and the authority of a father, fight day by day to make a way in life and to be accepted by the community as normal citizens, not like orphans.

Their destinies meet and their life changes radically. And this only by the power of love for the neighbor, this priceless gift given by God to all of us.

An important politician said once, on a Habitat site, that he would like to make a law through which "people should love each other like brothers and help each other have a better life. "I do not know if a law is necessary, I believe that it is necessary that we put ourselves in service to the other. To help each other raise our children in a family and not abandoned in the street or in an orphanage. And our young people will live gladly, will not become old as orphans, fighting against our distrust, against prejudices and the marginalization.

Let's write words to encourage Rozi and Gyonghy on the e-mail address: elena_cornea@bsbeius.ro and to show them that they are not alone on this world. These good and hardworking young women need our support and appreciation like we get them from those whom we love!

OUR SUPPORTERS

Sjaak Kanbier speaks ...

In October last year Adrian Ciorna from Beius and his wife Nikki visited us and stayed for a week in our house. On Sunday they were guests in our church and during the service they told us about their work with the orphans in Beius and showed us some results.

Their story especially about some medical problems, like the dental care project, touched us deeply. We asked the church board to organize a gift in October 2005 once again. During a month we collected money for Beius and the community gave a lot directly and via the bank account. We asked also one of our friends (a fund) to

participate. At least there was enough money to help the cases that mostly needed our help.

I received a report on the dental work done so far on some of the youngsters. With this article I include some pictures. **What a nice result after the treatment!**



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Help Good Samaritan with its general needs: In order to run the organization we need the skills of specialized Staff. It provides direct support to orphans, takes care of their needs as well as of important tasks like accounting, donor relations, reporting, etc. Without it Good Samaritan could not provide the necessary support to orphans!

Current needs

◆ **Weekly sport activities/ excursions, picnics, etc.**

Working closely with young orphans, we have realized that it is not enough to provide them with a shelter and a job. Outside of work, they do not have too many other constructive or positive activities. **To sponsor:**

- * a picnic—\$ 150 USD
- * an excursion— \$ 100 USD
- * sport activities with a professional coach per month— \$ 75 USD
- * Sport equipment—items prices between \$ 3 USD and \$ 18 USD
- ◆ Stove — \$ 218 USD, Needed 2.

- ◆ **TV sets**—needed 2, each of \$ 200 USD
- ◆ **Wardrobes**—needed 2, each of \$ 142 USD
- ◆ **Birthday gifts**— \$ 11 USD per person. Needed 20 gifts.
- ◆ **Construction project** - for the completion of the **two one - bedroom apartments** for orphaned youngsters.



Feri



Cocsis family



THANK YOU!

Aid for Romanian Children Foundation, Arjan de Koning, Daniel Vieru, Desirée Blom, Esther Bloemendall & Hervornde Kerk Maarsse Church, Eben Haezer Fund, Jim and Anne D. Carroll, J.C. Van Zundert, Ken Williams, Susan Cernik, Sigrid and Guy Gibson.

BECOME A GOOD SAMARITAN!

If you want to become a Good Samaritan, **organize your own fundraising project** in your own country, following the example of others. The goal and the project YOU choose.

CONTACT US!

BANKING INFO

Name of the bank:

BANCA COMERCIALA ROMANA, Agentia Beius (Romanian Commercial Bank, Beius Office)

Bank address:

Str. P-ta S. Vulcan 11
Beius, Bihor 415200, Romania,

Phone/fax: +40-259-321321

Swift code: RNCBROBU

Code for Int'l transfers (ID):

51510

CODE Iban:

For transfers in Euro:

RO56RNCB0034021802850002

For transfers in Dollars:

RO29RNCB0034021802850003

For transfers in Pounds:

RO02RNCB0034021802850004

FOR TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS MADE IN U.S.A., PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK TO:

Incarnation United Church of Christ, P. O. Box 68, Newport, PA 17074 - for Good Samaritan Beius, Romania