

Hands of Hope News Autumn 2019

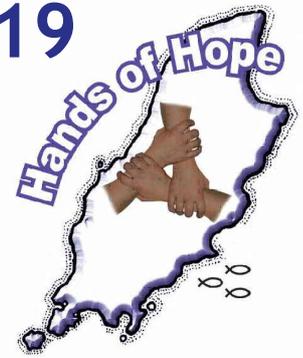
Thank you

for supporting us

for reading this newsletter

for encouraging us with messages

for all the things you do that makes this work possible



Summer activities

We have had a busy summer in Romania and the children are now back at school after their 12 week long vacation.

We are thankful for Gaelle, Oana and other volunteers who have helped run the activities for the children at Cobila over the summer. Many children attended the centre for one to one help with school work. For a week in August we had 40 children here for a vacation bible school. A team of 15 staff and volunteers worked hard each day and the children had great fun. The theme for the week was Space Odyssey, children learnt that if they want to go beyond the horizon, they have five missions to accomplish. As a result, there was five "special equipment fights for space odyssey": Fighting thoughts, Fighting impatience, Fighting failures, Fighting will, Fighting deeds.



Back to School

It is an expensive time for parents as although schooling is free the parents are obliged to provide stationery, text books and other supplies. For one of the primary schools in Dorohoi the list of items needed for a 6 year old just starting school costs £38 plus about the same for a back pack and uniform.

We have also been visiting other villages in the area and have been able to donate exercise books and stationery to the schools. In the village schools uniforms are not required but the parents are still obliged to buy books, pens etc.

Now as we go into autumn the work in the centre continues and children come each day for support with their school work.



Cobila site works

We are still trying to source a company to do the work to improve the road access onto the site. Over the summer we have refurbished and painted the outside of one of the houses and plan to do another soon.

Chris, Vasy and Edi have been working on improving one of the wells and soon we will be installing new systems to provide soft drinking water at the Community Centre providing cleaner safer water.

Work has also included upgrading our security camera system.



Grace's visit

Grace came from England to visit us in August. It was great to have her help with all the activities and it was superb to have her energy in sorting aid for distribution and organising our storage container. In both the heat of the summer and cold of the winter it is not comfortable to be in the container for long, so well ordered and labelled stock makes life much easier.

Here are a few of her observations from her stay here.

"I feel incredibly blessed to have been able to visit Botoşani and witness the life changing work Hands of Hope carry out. During my stay, we held an activity day for the children at the centre. Watching the kids have fun and laugh together was heart-warming and their joy was contagious. It was their first day of school not long after and we visited a couple of the local classes. It was great to see the children of gypsy families attend school in the hopes that an education for the young generation may break this cycle of poverty. Hands of Hope also provide additional tutoring to the children of Cobila which is an amazing opportunity to help them succeed in school."



Donations towards the work are essential and regular monthly donations are particularly welcome as it helps us budget for the year ahead. Bank details if you wish to set up a standing order or make a BACS payment are:

Hands of Hope

Account no: 12629251

Sort Code: 55 91 00

Cheques can be sent to "Hands of Hope", c/o C & R Baker, 14 Hawarden Avenue, Douglas, Isle of Man IM1 4BS or donations can be made via the Pay Pal link on our web site



Some Typical Monthly Costs	
School bus fare	£14
Family grocery bag	£12
Family firewood	£63
Family income support	£25 - £50
Student university support	£50
Family Allowance is from £27 per child and is sometimes the only family income	

www.handsofhope.org.im

