

# PRR newsletter March–April–May 2019

Our dear friends,

Major events took place in our PRR family in every area of our work lately, which we are happy to share with you. There are blessings we counted and thank God for, and there are challenges also we bring before the Lord.

*One of the greatest blessings for PRR is the donation by the Gratton family (Hope for Life ministries from England) made with all their love, of the “Mission House” (see the picture below), after allowing us to move the Boys’ Home from M. Kogălniceanu village to Murfatlar and run our after school program in the after noons in it. For a couple of years we mentioned in our newsletters about our need for a new van. The answer came also through the Gratton family, who donated to PRR the van they used to bless people in our area. To Pam, Les and the entire Gratton family we say a heartfelt ‘THANK YOU’, and send all our love.*

**VISITORS** – Mrs Dorothy Shepperson from England visited us in April with one of her friends, Ruby, being an encouragement for the girls and boys and for the staff too. All the girls and boys, especially the new ones, were happy to meet them. We had other visitors from the UK, Mr Ron P who celebrated again his birthday with PRR and other children from Medgidia. Mrs Anne Jones from North Wales & Carys from London who visited our project after 10 and 16 years, met all our current and former beneficiaries, and also visited the abandoned babies in the hospital. Mr John Mellor and his team (David, Graham, Les, Ken, Matt) visited our areas of work – group homes, after school program, babies in the hospital, and families in need.

**CASA BENJAMIN** – This is the first school year for our boys in Murfatlar. All graduated, and some of them with really good grades. Moving the Boys’ Home to Murfatlar was a real blessing for everyone in PRR, especially the boys, who were welcome by the community, integrated very well into their classes and their school results improved visibly, as they got daily support with their homework.

Moreover, all the boys started to attend a football club; the smaller ones were part of a painting club at the community centre during the school year.

Cristi graduated his 8th grade, and will go to high school after taking the national exams, for which he studies hard and got all the support he needed.



After months of titanic work to obtain authorizations, approvals from various institutions for the Boys Group Home, we got our temporary (one year) license from Bucharest last week.

**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM** – For three years we ran this program in the mission house provided by Hope for Life Ministries. The 15 children who benefited from Lia and Andrei’s help graduated with good grades and they are admired by their teachers and classmates for their good results and behaviour. But over the last year we saw how hard it is to have the after school classes in the same building with the Casa Benjamin boys. This causes us to pray more and look for a new location to move the after school program starting with this autumn.

**CASA ANNA** –Through the generosity of the Shepperson family and their friends, our girls enjoy a nice house and yard. The old fence was replaced with a new one; the yard is almost 80 square meters larger now, which means the girls have more space to play and they still can grow vegetables in the garden. Concrete pathways were made with the help and practical involvement of soldiers from NATO Base in M. Kogălniceanu. This is how the yard at Casa Anna Girls' Group Home looks like now!



Educationally, all the girls graduated with good grades. Some of the girls were involved in sports activities – Mihaela & small Daniela, 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the “oină” national contest, and Vasilica who takes part with her Football team in regional competitions.

The twins Genet & Dana (19) and Flori (18) have graduated their schools this month. They have lived at PRR for 12 years, and almost 8 years. Re-integration into their families of origin is impossible, so the Foundation assisted them in finding a job and a place to live, offering them counseling and practical support. We'll be there for them until they are established in their new life. The twins already started to work at a 4 Star hotel in Mamaia resort. Ana will work this summer at a hotel in Eforie Nord. She has one more year to go with her studies, and this experience will help her a lot after graduation, when she will need to manage on her own.

*The children in both homes are very happy; they are very well cared for, as it can be seen in the pictures. They are assisted in every area and we made a priority of their emotional, psychological and physical health so we've seen more medical doctors with them (GPs and specialists such as ophthalmologist, dermatologists, dentists, psychiatrists etc), plus the counseling sessions with our psychologist. Some of the children needed blood tests and other investigations. For all this to happen, our staff worked really hard, to exhaustion many times. Everyday life in our homes became more demanding as 9 new children came all at once into the group homes, some of the children being a real challenge. As some of the boys and the girls are related, they celebrate together when they have their birthday parties, and also spend quality time on other occasions.*

**FORMER BENEFICIARIES**—PRR is not a “program”; it is a family, in which children come and leave sooner and later, but for the rest of their lives they know PRR is their family who will support them. We keep in touch with all those who were in our homes, and help when they need us.

**EASTER TIME** – At Eastertime, none of the children in our residential homes were able to visit their families, but a few were invited to visit friends of the project in Constanta city or neighboring localities. The rest of the children were visited by people in the community, and got nice Easter presents. On Easter Sunday, they all were part of a Resurrection service in Maranata Church, Murfatlar.





**KIDS GAMES** – For five days at the end of April, a group of 21 youths from Ghimbav town, Braşov County, served the children in PRR – both group homes and afterschool – and many other children from the community, often 80-90 children in total every day. They had games, sports competitions together; a message on Easter's significance for us, as Christians, was delivered to them. They had a lot of fun, with sweets and fruit.



**HOSPITAL** – By God's grace we continued our monthly visits to the abandoned babies and the children in Constanta hospital. We'd have loved to have pictures here, but the hospital policy forbids photos being taken.



**WEDDING**– PRR children and some of the staff members were part of Carmen's religious ceremony and wedding party in April. After 10+ years with PRR, Carmen's special desire was to celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness with her PRR family. A few friends and partners of the project were present at the event as well. The children had a special gift for her, a wedding song that shed tears of happiness☺



## **PRAYER NEEDS**

- Cristi will have his final exams starting with the 15<sup>th</sup> of June and will apply for a high school.
- The twins, Genet and Dana, and Flori –to know and trust God personally; for protection, favour and courage, as they will learn how to live on their own; for strength and wisdom at their new jobs.
- Fitzioneshti camp (8 – 12 July, by the generosity of Stepping forward ministries) and the sports camp in Murfatlar (26 – 30 August, in cooperation with Ambassadors Football) – for protection, God's presence to visit the hearts of the children and teenagers.
- The Bristol youth team that will get involved with us in the sports camp and outreaches in Constanta County (24 – 30 August)
- PRR team – for strength, comfort, patience, grace, wisdom, health
- A new location for our after school program
- The official inspections have not ceased yet, we'll have another one from the Social Inspection very soon.

*In the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of PRR, our gratitude goes first to God, and to all those who sustained us by your prayers, encouraged us, donated goods and finances, invested time and energy in PRR. May God bless and keep you!*

**Many people have said they want to take up the 'little and often' challenge, where a dollar or euro or pound each week can make a huge difference to the work, so**

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and the Lord WILL repay them in full!* Proverbs 19:17 (paraphrase)**

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