

P.R.R. newsletter May – June 2020

Not losing heart and not getting tired

Our dear friends,

We're looking back over the last two months, and are amazed how quickly time has passed by. We're also looking forward to the summer and the rest of the year with the hope that our God, Jesus Christ, who is the same, yesterday today and forever, will grant us all we need for our souls and our physical lives.

In Romania we now have less restrictions imposed by the government, but are still in a 'state of alert' that's in effect since 17th of June. Our residential children are not allowed to have visitors or visit their own families or people who are important to them. Nevertheless, we were able to have a few activities where the children were able spend time together, to go into Constanta city or visit Mamaia resort, supervised by our staff on duty.



The children understood it was a real crisis and were as good and obedient as they were able. The children did all the chores they were required to do in the house, plus they did a great job doing their 'virtual school' work. They are our heroes and we are their heroes; It was special grace we received from the Lord. We became more aware of and grateful for the blessing of having small gardens and yards for the children when they were not allowed to leave the houses at all. Also, we appreciated so much each donation you, our faithful friends were able to send for our support.

School holiday – All Casa Anna and Casa Benjamin children are in good health, enjoying their summer holidays since June 12th. They really needed this break, after four months of online classes and for the most part being confined indoors. Their results are better than before the pandemic, because they worked harder. **Vasilica** and **Cristi** will get scholarships, as they achieved very good grades. ☺ **Georgiana** and **Robert** graduated the primary cycle and **Alex** the 8th grade, taking national exams in order to enroll in a trade school to become a baker. There were a number of good people who answered our appeal and donated secondhand devices that our boys and girls used in order to do their online school homework and other educational tasks. Our staff did their best to support each child, although it was really challenging with more homework than normal and with the technology and applications they didn't know how to use before. School will resume on September 14, so we hope and pray our children will have lots of fun and do various activities in order to help them 'recharge their batteries'.



From a medical point of view, **Daniela** and **Vasilica** were consulted by an ophthalmologist and were prescribed glasses. Daniela needs to wear them permanently to correct her myopia. **Mihaela** was evaluated by her endocrinologist and **Dani** had many investigations for his growth deficit. All the girls had a set of blood and other medical tests, and received medication according to the results. We had to pay for the spectacles and some of the tests, which are expensive here.



Ana graduated her trade school – she is a qualified hotel worker now! She will work for two full months in Eforie Nord resort, and then we'll help her find an affordable flat to rent, as her protection measure will end after turning 18 on the 23rd of August. She enrolled in a high school in Constanta so she will continue with her studies for three years and work at the same time. It will be a difficult time for her and we'll do our best to support her emotionally, educationally and practically. If you think you could support her financially with paying her rent for a couple of months, that would be a wonderful blessing and encouragement for her now that she has to learn how to manage by herself.

The twins **Genoveva** and **Daniela** (former Casa Anna beneficiaries) needed our help again, both financially and practically, as they had to vacate the studio flat they were renting together. We accommodated them for a month in Casa Shalom in Murfatlar, owned by our dear Gratton family from England. The twins moved to Constanta last week. Three staff were significantly involved in moving their personal belongings back and forth. Daniela found a studio flat to rent together with her boyfriend with whom she will have a baby, due next month. Because of her job, Genoveva cannot catch the last minibus to Murfatlar, so she had to move to Constanta too. She will live for a while at Nutzi's (Casa Anna staff), who will help her, we're sure, with more than accommodation – counselling and practical things etc.



Andrei, former Casa Benjamin boy, was helped financially after a failed attempt to work in England. His disability certificate has expired so our staff together with two former beneficiaries (Johnny and Seigean Muşat) assisted him make all the necessary tests and all the formalities to apply for a new one. Also, the Muşat family helped him with accommodation and all the papers he had to hand in to graduate 8 classes.

There are other former beneficiaries who expressed their desire to come and visit the actual beneficiaries and spend time with the staff members.

We continue to assist families in great need from the villages in our area. Many people here were seriously affected by the pandemic. In cooperation with the County Council of Constanța and the Food bank in Bucharest, we distributed to them clothing, and food once or twice a week.

Our staff are all doing ok, although most of us endured an exhausting period due to the online classes and the extremely long shifts that were demanded by the military order issued on April 10th. We were Covid19 tested every two weeks. So far, three times already.

I'm really grateful to the Lord for our staff – they were more than flexible with all the new lifestyle challenges, many extra hours, and not being paid on time. I pray God would bless us in His way, because the salaries we got were too low compared to our colossal efforts.



Please, please continue to pray with us for our financial situation, which is yet even more critical. THANK YOU!

Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

(2 Corinthians 4:16-18)

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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