



This year we included a good number of new families on our support list. Although we did not have as many available resources as other times, we still endeavoured to provide to them, according to their needs. Not only the food parcel, which is a basic but very appreciated way of support, but also various other hygiene products, diapers, etc. This type of support is very welcome for these families, as most of them live in bad or very bad conditions and they do not benefit from social support, for various reasons. Of course, each case is different and we try to do something for everybody, in some cases more efforts are required, as problems they might have can be quite complex. We are hopeful that our support will make a difference to them!

## Field Project Newsletter

*Thank you for being a supporter of the Field Project. Your support is very important and enables us to continue our work among people who are in need. We are always looking for the most vulnerable groups and individuals, so your support will provide the help that is vital for many! Thank you!*

**The Smiles  
FOUNDATION**



**The Smiles Foundation UK**  
PO Box HK70, Leeds, LS11 6YR  
Telephone: 0113-276-5060  
Registered UK Charity No. 1087961

**The Smiles Foundation USA**  
10645 N. Tatum Blvd # 200471 Phoenix, AZ 85028  
Telephone: 423-239-9525  
Registered USA Charity # 860957704

[www.thesmilesfoundation.org](http://www.thesmilesfoundation.org)  
[info@thesmilesfoundation.org](mailto:info@thesmilesfoundation.org)

## Field Project Newsletter

### Autumn-Winter 2020



The Field project has been through an evolving experience these past couple of years, having been a Cornerstone of Smiles activity to the poor, homeless and marginalised communities. This period of assessment and adjustment to what is needed today, some 19 years after the Family Care project was established, has led us to many exciting new possibilities for the future.

Integrating our support of the poor, homeless and marginalised into our new Outreach programme, allows for a much broader yet more personalised approach, as we consider What Would Jesus Do in each and every situation we face.

Our desire will be to do more, certainly more appropriate and essential support for those in need, but to do it not out of social obligation but because Jesus Himself taught us to do so, as we read in Matthew 25 v3445.

Through these endeavours of a more scripture based approach to our work with the poor, homeless and marginalised, we believe we will see greater results and the lives of many improved, not just for today, but for eternity. We look forward to sharing more of the new structure in 2021.

**Kevin Hoy,**  
Founder and Chief Executive  
The Smiles Foundation

As all the Summer schedule was changed because of the various restrictions imposed due to COVID, we couldn't do all we wanted to do for the children in our communities. So, as school started, we really wanted to take the opportunity and decided to give one school bag to each child of school or nursery age. These bags were filled with everything needed inside, making it a significant value. We distributed about 100 such bags and the kids were so excited about it! For some of them, it is the very first time they received something like that, and no wonder, as their parents couldn't easily afford to buy all that stuff. We thank all those who made this possible, good friends of ours and of the kids. And we hope that school will be an easier and nicer adventure now, having all they need ready to be used.





The **Homeless Container Village** was directly and very seriously affected by the effects of the pandemic. The lockdown was complete at one point, but we still managed to visit and prepare a packed lunch for the people there. And as the authorities wanted to keep the streets clean, suddenly the numbers changed to about 60 beneficiaries everyday. We soon realized all of them will need attention and because the city would only provide one meal a day, we thought we can contribute with something.

Unfortunately, the regulations become more and more serious and so, at one point, we could not visit them anymore, at all. The city Social Services suspended their daycentre which was running in our Container Village, so we could not continue our visits in a formal way. The alternative, which we took for a

while, was to meet the people in front of the Night Shelter, on the street, to briefly hand them their lunch. We know they appreciated it, and needed it, so we did it gladly.

We also continued seeing some of the homeless people, like Stefan and Maricica, who are still living in their little places; for them also the restrictions meant less available resources and they needed some extra support, which we were happy to provide.

In **Rapa Community** things were also more complicated than normal. Especially in the first stage of the pandemic, when we had a severe lockdown, when suddenly there was less work available and the possibilities were reduced.

The children were off school, as there is no online option in villages like Rapa, so then they had a prolonged vacation, which with them actually makes it more difficult to pick up again. Now, six months later, they started the school again and they need attention, hopefully soon we'll be able to do something about that too. As you can imagine, for Rapa people going backwards is much more likely than forward, if they are on their own. They are still very far away from an independent but proper way of living.

We do visit them, especially Pastor Vasile, who goes there every week, so we have hopes for future progress!



There are many families whom we visit, as usual, some from **Cuiersd (Florina in the photo)** where we continued to visit three families, as well as other villages in Bihor County. Most of them are doing alright, but not exceptional. Those that manage to do better, we stopped helping, as they benefit for many years from our support and they are on their feet now. But those we kept still need support, and many are of the type that will always need some kind of support. Life is too difficult for them, without anyone helping somehow.

We are always looking into how we can make our support more relevant. For some, the food is essential for instance, but for some others, not so much. How can we best help? We'll continue to look for those who need our support and we'll help them, but equally we feel we need to do more on the spiritual level too. We have always thought it is better to teach someone to fish

We shall be looking more and more into combining both of these facets together. Our plan is to spend more time on guiding people than only supporting them. Please pray for us to do this with wisdom and compassion, showing love as always, as our Lord Jesus would do!

People from **Corbesti** are happy to see us, no matter how often or not we go to visit their little community. The five families in there live quite simply and although some of them have higher aspirations, they are not so high anyway, they usually limited to having some better clothes or shoes. This might sound disappointing, but in fact is the realism of their condition that makes them dream some might say little. But we realize this is not altogether bad after all, they seem happy and maybe that teaches us all something. It might be exactly what the Bible says about a thankful heart, which takes everything with joy and because of that, it feels everything is like an unending feast ! This is written in Proverbs.

We hope they will keep that heart and they will continue to appreciate whatever we can do for them, and we'll be happy to continue to help them also once the times will become less complicated.

