

# Field Project Newsletter

## Spring-Summer 2020



We are in the midst of an extraordinary time as the COVID-19 virus affects all parts of the world and all aspects of life, and in such times, we ask for your continued prayers and support for those in the Smiles Team, working on the front-line in Romania.

At this time, we must put our trust in the Lord. He is at the centre of it all, knows what tomorrow holds and is right by our side. The Smiles Foundation along with the staff and beneficiaries of all our projects, need your support. As the impact challenges each of us, please consider the needs we have, to maintain our support of those who need it most. We pray during these dark days, we can continue to be a light, giving hope to others.

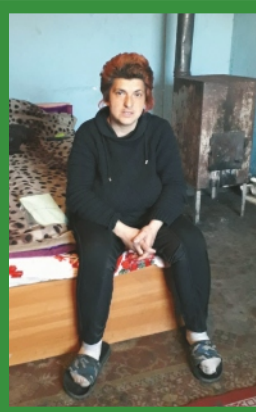
Thank you for your love and support.

**Kevin D. Hoy - CEO The Smiles Foundation**

The latest visits on the **Field** revealed how great the needs still are out there and how many families still need our support! We took a serious option for trying to find and help



people we have not worked with before, simply because we want to provide a chance to anyone and not continue for ever with the same that we had before. Helping the ones who can't do without us!



Seeing how families live in one of Oradea's poorest neighbourhood, we are amazed how they survived through the winter. Now we are helping them and even if we cannot do something for everybody in there - as there are hundreds of people all qualifying - we believe we can make a difference, especially where there are children involved, who are obviously innocent victims.

The needs are various, from the wood for fire in the winter to clothing and food, from a better bed to a house at all, from notebooks for children to medicine for parents... We are trying to assess and to do something as we can, for each one of these difficult situations, according to resources we have.

Thank you for supporting us and being of help for our friends, may God bless you!



One of the reasons we want to visit the Container Village as often as we can, is that spending time with people who are rather rejected and marginalized by society, fulfils the teachings of Jesus rather perfectly. There is little that is more important after all, than for us to have

someone to talk to, to share with and to understand us. None of us are called to live alone, but rather to have friends and to be a friend to someone.

The other day we were at the Container Village and challenged our friends to create something nice, to become artists for a day, or at least let them unleash their inner creativity. They took the challenge on and we ended up having a proper art-gallery by the time we finished the workshop! Quite remarkable!

We had some friends from United States, students at University, who enjoyed the experience very much and they thought we should do this as often as possible. We agree!



So, by doing a little bit of crafts, or a painting, or a nice modelling with clay session, we encourage the beneficiaries in the Container Village to discover a new area of their personal talents and hopefully this will help them concentrate more on what they can do and not so much on their difficulties and shortcomings. This must be something good, because we have only seen happy faces around!



Thank you for helping us to do all of these programmes and much more! On behalf of the homeless community, we want you to know that we appreciate it and please continue your kind support in the future too!





**Rapa Community** continues to be both challenging and rewarding to work with. People in Rapa are always surprising, with good and with not so good. But we continue to serve there and to encourage the progress. Sometimes we are more hopeful, other times we just need to admit there is a long way to still go in seeing real improvements.

Children on the other hand are as keen as always to participate to our programmes. The afterschool we do in the community is a great

success, they are present each time and ready to learn something new. The problem is that in regular school they are not so interested, because the teachers did not yet find a good way to get them involved. For most of the time, they are left in a corner or even encouraged to leave the school under various pretexts - like being sick - simply because teachers prefer to have a quieter class and be left with only those children that are easy to work with - Gypsies are rarely in that category.

So, our job is even more difficult in trying to work with the community. We encourage parents to find jobs and to keep them. We did some research ourselves to find some appropriate options and some of them gave it a go. Unfortunately, with most it does not get beyond being 'a try', but we need to keep at it, stay optimistic and maybe one day we'll see a better response.

We also encourage families to do the best they can in everything. We want them to understand they need to become more able to deal with life day by day and not always wait for us to do it for them.

Please continue to pray and to support this work, as they still need us, for a while.



At the **Container Village** we regularly have about 10-15 people every day, getting together in the day-centre. We go there, spend time with them, feed them and listen to their problems. And help, as we can.

**Karcsi** is one of these people. His story is very sad indeed. He was married, had two daughters and the whole family used to live with his in-laws. Both his daughters were students at Cluj University. One time when they came home for the summer break, they were involved in a terrible accident on the road and both of them died, as well as their mother. That moment was a total shock for Karcsi and he never actually recovered emotionally!

So, coming back to the present, after having some serious issues with one of his legs, which started to become not only very painful but also swelling up, some immediate medical intervention was needed. After the wound was cleaned and some strong antibiotics treatment was administered, Karcsi felt much better. So, we are hopeful that he'll be alright. Please continue to pray for our homeless friends and for Karcsi in particular! Thank you!

## 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 # 200-471 Phoenix, AZ 85028  
Telephone: 423-239-9525  
Registered USA Charity # 86-0957704

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