OUTREACH PILLAR Report

NOVEMBER 2025

The Outreach Pillar of The Smiles Foundation is all about sharing with people God's Kingdom and the ways He can change their lives.

Welcome to our November 2025 Outreach Report! The last few months were as busy as ever, there is little time off from what we are doing. Since our last report in August, we have some very interesting updates for you. I hope you will enjoy this report and find the information valuable for you, as you are so directly involved with us as Partners of our Pillar!



To the regular activities here in Romania, the tour in the UK was added, and that is important as our Outreach Partner initiative was promoted again, as well as the Missions Mate and Residential Companions. The whole tour was a success and we were so impressed with the kindness and generosity of so many people, truly humbling! That was a wonderful experience!

The Outreach programmes raised a lot of interest also because of the stories I could share. Everyone could understand that life is sometimes very hard on people and they need support and assistance to overcome problems - we are there for them and try our best to do something about it.

Before going to the UK, the whole month of October was very busy with the Autumn mission trip season and we took a lot of visitors out there. We added quite a number of new families to our support list. They fight against various issues, of course the most problematic one is the lack of financial resources, but also the difficulties they sometimes have in understanding the most basic ways to reduce costs and optimize expenses. We are thinking of making a proper "financial education class" with those who could have a reasonable grasp of these concepts. Even at a basic level, this should help, even if only giving some alternative!

So, please read each section of our report and hopefully this will be a nice little update on what we are doing, please also write to us, as you feel inclined, so that we can tell you even more details!

Adi Matiș, *Director of Smiles Outreach Pillar*

PILLAR updates

There is a lot happening every day under the Outreach Pillar, either going out on the field or at the office, dealing with various paperwork. We are happy report that there is little time to get any break!

In terms of personnel updates, as you know from our previous announcements, we have Claudiu with us now, starting 1st October. He made a very good impression with our mission trip guests, as well as our own team here, locally. He is a very positive and willing person, making himself available for serving in our team! This is truly what we need, someone ready to do whatever is needed, as there are no two needs and situations the same.

Andreea Buzle, on the other hand, needs some time to rest and take it easy. Very recently after her getting married, she also got pregnant and doctors recommended a careful approach, to avoid any risks, due to some rough first weeks of pregnancy. So, she just needs to be aware and cautious.

Pastor Vasile, despite his own health issues, is trying his best to serve the churches in Tileagd and Rapa, so do not forget to pray for him. And for us all, to have the energy and guidance needed to make a real difference for the people, as well as resources to see these through.

COMMUNITIES update





The Homeless Community, at our Container Village, continues to benefit from our involvement, not only with food (the well-known sandwiches, and other stuff too) but also with medical and legal support too. Recently, we helped some of the beneficiaries to complete their paperwork for getting the state benefits they are entitled to. This happens often, the state might offer some opportunities, but the people we work with, being rather simple and often completely iliterate, have no idea and it is only when we help them they get to receive some monthly support from social care institutions.

Some of the people you even might know from the Container Village have some medical problems. We helped Vidu to get his treatment for Asthma, we also help his family also by including his mother into our "non-regular" support for food parcels. For another member of the community, Shony, we paid for the medical investigations, as he needed the doctor's stamp on some medical documents. There are many little things we do, but they are all very important for these people. Without our support, they couldn't achieve much of what they might have otherwise, to have some relief in their lives.



DEZNA CAMPS updates

We always say, our mission trip volunteers are the best! With all the work that is now happening at Dezna Centre, we needed good, brave and willing hands for clearing and cleaning the attic - not the most glamorous job, as dirt and dust were everywhere and those big heavy things to be removed was quite a task! But we did it all! ("We" being the team, I only took the picture!) Truly, hard work, amazing job! I can't mention all the teams who helped at Dezna, but you know who you are! Thank you!

The work's progress is as scheduled, with some more elements to be added as we go. This is the story with the authorities, we cannot be certain of anything, until we end up with the official papers in our hands. There is still a way to go, but we trust God will take us victorious through it all.

LIFE STORIES SERIES

The Lacatus family, recommended to us by Pastor Vasile Sana, is currently facing a difficult situation in the village of Livada, about 5 miles from Oradea.

When they purchased the land for building their home, they did not know it carried a major debt to the local council. Eventually, in order to settle the debt, they were forced to sell the house they just built, to use the money for paying what was owed and to begin building a new house. At least this was their plans and hopes.



At the moment, the new house is only partially built, with just the foundation, rough walls and roof yet to be done, making it impossible for the family to move in. However, the person who bought their first house, although they promised to allow them to stay for a longer time, suddenly asked them to leave, obviously earlier than expected. They are now temporarily staying in brother Sana's home, which is not a long-term solution for a family with five children.

Financially, the family is struggling, they rely on disability pensions and child allowances as main resources - two of the children they have are disabled. The father works when he can, but he couldn't keep a full-time job, because his wife needs support, especially with the needs of their eldest two daughters. Having some severe disabilities, they are often times in the hospital. Their most urgent needs are construction materials to finish their home, as well as immediate help with food and clothing. We hope, as always, that with your support, we can give this family a helping hand.

SUPPORT *updates*

Our support is going out to the beneficiaries on many forms - the regular food package is just one way. Often, we bring them medicine, clothes, as they need, we pay for the fire-wood for the winter, take various furniture and utensils and so on. While some of us were in UK for the tour, the others completed these "deliveries". Claudiu and Andreea did a great job going out and sharing support as needed! This is part of what we are doing and a very immediate and concrete way to show people God takes care of their needs!









Prayer Points

"All the days of the oppressed are wretched, but the cheerful heart has a continual feast" Proverbs 15:15 NIV

How precious it is to stay thankful to God, despite all the challenges and problems coming our way! It is a known fact that a grateful heart will take us much further than everlasting discontent, and will make our lives so much better!

Let us pray that:

1. Through it all, we will maintain a cheerful and positive attitude, simply because no matter how much we will worry or complain, more often than not we cannot change much and a hopeful and trustful heart will be much more preferable.

2. When we feel we do not have enough, or not good enough, let's remember there are so many people who have much less! This we know, but often forget along the way - we tend to only be satisfied with the best, although even better than average is ok, and something at all is much nicer than plain nothing!

FIELD VISITS *updates*



In the last period of time, we have visited an increased number of people, as we plan on adding a significant improvement to what we do and how we do it. When we have more details, we will update you - keep praying for us in the meantime! And thank you for all you do in order to support us!

Thank You!

Please accept our thanks and appreciation for your support towards The Outreach Pillar's Programmes! Your kind generosity makes possible the work we do here in Romania.
Thank you for being our partner in doing God's work among people in need!