



NEWSLETTER OCT/NOV 2010

Happy Thanksgiving from FFR!

With Thanksgiving approaching, we want to thank each and every person who has been a part of Firm Foundations Romania and our projects. Whether it is through prayer, giving or volunteering, your help has allowed us to continue ministering to this country that is still so in need. Most of all we want to thank God for his protection, strength, and guidance for FFR. May you all have a beautiful Thanksgiving time!

This summer has been busy for all of us. We have never had as many short term volunteers as we did this year and it has been wonderful to see people of all ages loving and caring for the children in the hospital and help-

ing with other projects of FFR.

We said goodbye to our long term volunteer Juliana, who was serving in Romania for one year. It was hard letting her go, but God is faithful. In the beginning of October we welcomed our new long term volunteer Manuel from Germany. He will be working in the hospital, teaching German lessons in a nearby center, and also be in charge of "Better Than A Hostel For Boys."



(Pictured Above) Juliana Lodge worked with the babies in the hospital along with the children on the psychiatric ward. She also helped organized games and crafts for our teenage girls and helped with translation when needed.

We want to thank her for all she has done in Romania and pray that God will bless her future back in England.

Update on Andreea's Schooling

Andreea, 14 years old, has been attending a Brasov high school since the beginning of this new school year. Thanks to a couple of supporters she is able to live in the dorm on campus. Though she missed a few early morning classes, Andreea is doing well in school according to her teachers. We are very thankful for the op-

portunity Andreea has to move away from her village life, further her education, and hopefully be an example to other girls she knows. This is a big step for Andreea considered many girls her age are already having babies and dropping out of school. Please pray for Andreea to stay committed and study hard.



Most Urgent Needs:

- **Finances for a project assistant/translator for work in the hospital and villages-**
- **Finances to rent a facility center for our teenage girls project, Give Back project, etc.**
- **Sponsors for diapers, formula and wipes**



MOMs Project



The mothers listen to a testimony from one of our volunteers who has two young boys. They were very touched and encouraged to hear this.

It has been a joy to see our new MOMs project getting off its feet. Our team of volunteers who run the program have been meeting weekly with mothers who are staying with their babies on the maternity floor.

Each week different subjects like breastfeeding, bathing, and getting to know your baby are talked about with the mothers, and they are then able to ask ques-

tions and voice concerns. With a craft, songs or games and a good snack, these meetings have become the highlight of many mothers who stay with their babies in the hospital. Not only do the mothers appreciate the meetings, but the doctors and nurses have been very supportive of the new project. It is great to be able to encourage this love and the bond between mother and child.

We are excited that Sarah's sister Tina who is coming to visit Romania in November will be able to teach a CPR training course for the mothers and the staff in the hospital.

If you want to read more about this project please visit our website at

www.firmfoundationsromania.com/momsproject.php

Current Projects Updates

Teenage Girls



Over the last months we have been focusing on personal hygiene with our teen girls from Budila. A friend of ours from England taught the girls how to properly wash their hair, brush their teeth, and wash their bodies. Using glitter to demonstrate how germs spread and actually washing Steffi's hair, the

girls were very interested and entertained with the lesson. We will continue the lesson next month where the girls will be able to get their hair cut, a first for many of them!

While we are raised learning about health and hygiene, children in gypsy villages are not. We want to encourage these girls to take care of their bodies and develop a healthy self esteem.



Family Sponsorship



Sabina and Larissa's home

After an article was written about Firm Foundations Romania in a German Christian magazine, much interest was stirred about our work. Out of the responses we received, another family has been added to our sponsored list. Larissa and Sabina (introduced in the August newsletter) have been in and out of the hospital

since birth. They are the youngest two siblings of a family with four girls. Living in a run down, one room shack, the family lacks the basic necessities. We are hoping that with family sponsorship changes will happen in this family. We know it will not be an easy process but we are willing to try.

As a very cold winter approaches, many families in Budila are living without heat. We would love to see more families warm this winter. If you are interested in blessing a family this winter and buying a new sofa (heater/stove), please contact us at

mail@firmfoundationsromania.com

Testimony: Sarah Speegle

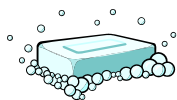
"What was your favorite part of Romania?" This is a question I received on more than one occasion after returning home from Brasov, Romania. And my answer? "The people." I knew going in that I would get to spend time with some sweet babies, but I did not anticipate the fellowship I would find with so many wonderful people. I arrived in Brasov on a Friday evening and was immediately welcomed by the Firm Foundations leaders and volunteers. Before I even got to the hospital on Monday for my orientation, I already knew

most of the people I would be working with and felt very comfortable with them. Getting to spend time with the children in the hospital was only made more memorable by sharing that time with the short and long-term volunteers. The long-term volunteers that live in Brasov are amazing! They have huge hearts and truly desire to share the love of Christ with everyone they come into contact with. It never ceased to amaze me how they would see a need and then do whatever they could to fill it. And it was very obvious that the Lord is blessing their work

in Romania. Simply reading in the FFR newsletter about all the projects they are involved with demonstrates God's provision. I have been back home for about three months now and I still think of my trip often. I find myself using any excuse to talk about Romania and those precious babies. So if you are thinking about going to Brasov, stop thinking and go! When we pour ourselves out for Love, it is a life changing experience. An experience that is worth the cost and that will be paid back many times over, often in unexpected ways.



Sarah Speegle from Texas volunteered with us in July.



Shower Project and Give Back Program

In a previous newsletter we mentioned that one of our goals is to teach the Roma community about health and hygiene. We are still looking into shower containers and the finances to keep this project running. By next

spring we hope to welcome a couple from England who will teach the Roma parents how to plant vegetables and make items to sell. We want to teach the families we sponsor to "give back" through hard work and

dedication. We are currently looking into buying or renting land in Budila. It will be a large undertaking, but we are excited to see how the Roma families and community can be improved by learning the importance of self discipline.

Future
Projects
and
Upcoming
Events



Christmas Concerts

Last Christmas the FFR team was able to perform Christmas concerts for orphans, handicapped children, and the children in the hospital. What a wonderful way to bring cheer to those less fortunate and to introduce the true meaning of the season! This year we are hoping to once again have the

opportunity to share Christ through songs and music. This holiday season we plan to have concerts in an orphanage for teenagers and handicapped children, at the Children's hospital where we volunteer, and in Budila for the families that we sponsor and the teenage girls.

For many, Christmas is a

time of happiness, family and hope. But for others, the Christmas season brings sadness and loneliness. It is our prayer that these concerts will touch hearts, bring joy, and be a reminder as to why we celebrate this special holiday. If you are interested in supporting us for these concerts, please let us know.



Prayer Requests and Thankfulness

Thank you to everyone who has been with us and supported us in various ways. We believe that prayer is the most important part of anything we do; it can change circumstances and help in difficult situations while uplifting and strengthening the spirit.



Some prayer requests and praises we have our:

Thankful:

- For a full summer season of volunteers and visitors who have blessed us
- For a finished 501 account in the United States
- For new projects being developed
- Andreea and our teenagers
- The successful start of the MOMS project



Prayer Needed For:

- Finances for our new projects
- Shower Project and Give Back Program in Budila
- Open hearts and minds of the Roma people
- Romania's economy, government and people
- God's grace and protection for the long winter season approaching



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If you are interested in our work or making a donation, please visit our website at

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or contact us at

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FFR works in coalition partnership with HFTN - International.

'I will strengthen you and help you. I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.'
Isaiah 41:10