



Centre of Hope – GLIA God's Love In Action



Reaching out with God's Love to the poor and oppressed by -

Providing practical Help, Comfort and Spiritual Encouragement for the people of Romania

June 2025

Newsletter Nr 97

General.....

Dorohoi has had a generally wet and cold early spring but have had no rain since mid May and already the water to the town has been cut off three times which has meant people have been drawing from the spring which is just down the road from the Centre but even that has dried up on occasions. Fortunately we have been able to switch from town water to our well but we need to be careful of that as it could run dry.

.....rising costs...

EON – the only electricity provider is increasing its prices by 50% which will hit everyone but especially those struggling to afford electricity – it will also mean that our costs will rise at the Centre. Gas prices (again EON being the only provider) remain subsidised until next March but even with it being subsidised we as a charity are having to pay commercial prices and it has meant for the past couple of years we have had to be very frugal with our use of gas meaning that the majority of the time there has been little or no heating in both buildings. The majority of those we help at the Centre only have an income of approximately £220/month

As here in the UK, Romanian food prices have also risen a lot making it very hard for those we help at the Centre but again it also means that our costs have risen.

....a familiar problem...

Romania recently had a presidential election and people are worried that the new president is struggling to form a government and that the country has spent more than its income and the concern is that taxes will rise.



A Welcome Donation...

We recently benefitted from a donation of shoes and clothes from a Romanian Charity that is helping Ukrainians living in the area who had a surplus of these items. As we are not able to send items out to Dorohoi at the moment we are extremely appreciative of this donation.



Someone new...

Andrie is 31 years old and we were put in touch with him through a contact in the Church. He lives with a friend and is diabetic and lost his sight 8 years ago and because he has kidney problems as well he needs dialysis three times a week. We are providing a meal for him twice a week.



Good News.....

Last month we asked for prayer for Pastor Josef, who pastors a village church and also leads the Bible Study, Prayer and Praise meeting that we have at the Centre. I am happy to say that his health is improving and is now able to return to pastor his church and he has restarted the meeting at the Centre which we have not been able to have since January.



As mentioned in the previous newsletter when Lesley and I felt God calling us to work in Romania we did not feel that we were being called to work within the orphanage system but to provide somewhere that those that were living, as Lesley put it, a grey existence and in such poverty could come into a warm, welcoming place where they would be listened to, have a meal or food bag, helped where possible and experience God's Love for them.

Little did we realise then that as well as families and the elderly, there were many ex-orphans who were living rough. We were introduced to a couple who came to the Centre for a meal and now there are between 20 – 25 who regularly come and have a shave, shower, a change of clothes when needed and a meal. Most of them have psychiatric and communication problems having come through the orphanage system and find the Centre a place of safety. We have tried with many to get rooms but many leave after less than 24 hours.

Many of them will offer to do small tasks and in the winter many come to help clear the snow in order to stay warm – a time of great fun as they move snow from one place to another and back again!! Several of them come to the Wednesday Bible study that we hold!

Below are just some of them:-



As you will see we are making an appeal but we are so grateful to those who support the work financially but the reality is that it has been a struggle for the past months as prices and costs have risen. A meal is costing £2.75 and the average cost of a food bag is £6.57. Taking all the costs – food, utilities, salaries etc., it costs approx. £7000 to run the Centre and at the moment we are not able to meet that. If you feel you can help in some way please use the information on the appeal sheet or use the information below.

Prayer.....

- Give thanks to God that Josef has been able to resume some of his pastoral work and that he was able to restart our Wednesday meeting giving thanks for all those who came along. Pray that God will continue to place His healing hand on Josef and restore him to full health.
- Please pray for those that have come through the Orphanage system and have so many issues – that they may continue to find the Centre a place of safety and security but that they will also be aware of God's Love for them.
- Pray for all those we help – the Elderly, the lonely, the families that through the Centre they may come to know the Love of God and all that He has done for them through Jesus Christ
- Please continue to Pray for our Team – that they may look to God for His leading and guiding,

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of the work
Peter, the Trustees and our Romanian Team

Contact details-

Registered Address:- 7 Hawthorn Avenue, Sawston, Cambridge, CB22 3TE

Also:- 93 Clifton Road, Lossiemouth, Moray, IV31 6DP

Email – peterbutcher@centrefofhope.org.uk

Tel:- 01343810748

Website – www.centrefofhope.org.uk

Mob 07786511328

For Donation's - Caf Bank Ltd; Sort Code, 40 52 40; Acc Name, Centre of Hope GLIA; Acc No., 00011331

alternatively you could use our Justgiving account - www.justgiving.com/centrefofhope/donate

or by cheque to the addresses above

Registered charity nos:- England and Wales 1100325 & Scotland SC043667