



KI Reporter

"Together we can make a difference for a better tomorrow"

Fourth Quarter 2003

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Kidstown team helps give orphanage a face-lift



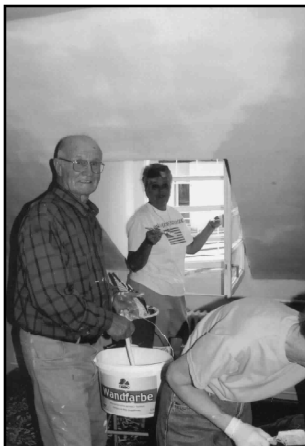
A look at the dayroom under construction

All houses, apartments, and other dwelling places need upkeep, and orphanages in Romania are no different. The Casa Sperantei is a Christian orphanage which has been supported by Kidstown International for about 3 and 1/2 years. Housed in a large building, the orphanage itself occupies only the top floor. A leaking roof caused damage to the wood and plaster ceiling of the dayroom. Fixing the ceiling, installing new storm windows, and painting bedrooms were tasks that needed to be done to satisfy the inspection requirements of the Romanian government. Therefore a team of nine people-five from Washington, and four from Michigan, took on the task.

Construction methods used in America aren't always those used overseas, as was soon discovered! Fortunately, two Romanians who were very knowledgeable in local construction methods gave guidance and leadership for the team. Like opening a can of worms, a seemingly small project turned into a huge task! The room's appearance drastically changed; at one point debris covered the floor, chicken wire hung from the ceiling, and rotten wood was exposed. As time went on, though, a wonderful transformation took place, like a caterpillar which turns into a butterfly. By the time the group left, the change was remarkable, and according to the director, the dayroom was "the most beautiful"!



Another look at the dayroom: what a difference!



The group also did a wonderful job transforming somewhat drab rooms into beautiful collages of light pastels! What a joy for the children to be able to enjoy a bright and comfortable room. It is one of our goals at Kidstown to give the children a nice place to live. Thanks to the "Fall 2003" team for making this a reality!

Team members showing love in a very practical way.

KIDSTOWN International

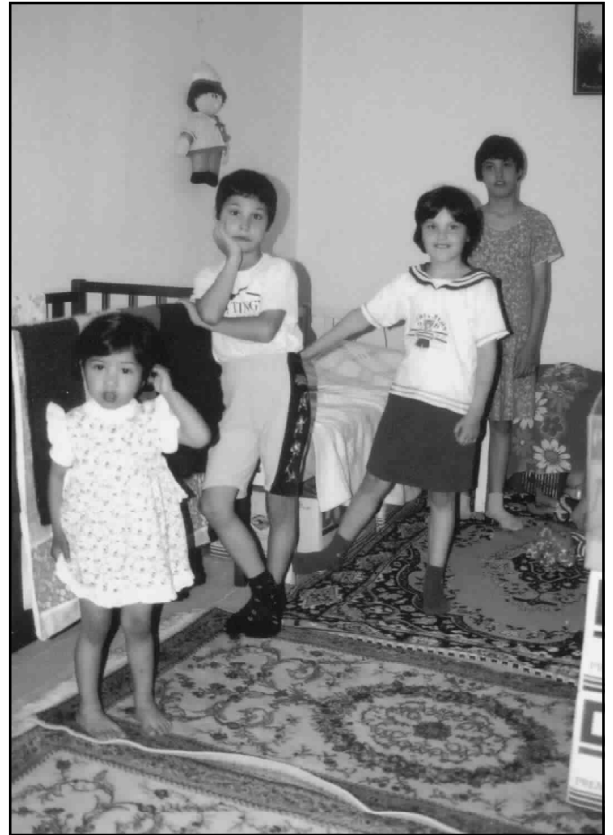
Our organization is committed to supporting orphans in Romania. Our goal is to receive these children in love, provide for their daily needs, encourage their hopes for the future, and let each child know that God loves them. Your contribution makes you a partner in caring for these needy children, supplying resources to equip them to meet life's challenges.

Two more orphanages enter sponsorship program

In June of 2003 Kidstown staff visited five orphanages in Romania which were seeking financial assistance from Kidstown. After careful consideration, the board of directors approved four of the five orphanages for acceptance into Kidstown's sponsorship program. It was impossible to begin helping all four at one time, but a list was created, based on need, stating which orphanage would be helped first, second, and so on. Even though the economy apparently is suffering, God has blessed Kidstown by continuing to raise up sponsors. In the last six months, Kidstown has been able to fully sponsor the Diaconia orphanage which is located in Constanta. Last month Kidstown was able to begin to look for sponsors for the Emmaus orphanage which is located near Tirgu Mures.

What a blessing it is to be able to reach out to and partner with our Romanian brothers and sisters in this endeavor of caring for abandoned children. We are humbled by the servant hearts of these Romanian Christians who have devoted their lives to caring for orphans.

For those who are partnering with us in prayer, please add these two orphanages to your list. Pray that God will continue to touch the hearts of many people and cause them to sponsor children. In this way we can continue to reach out to more needy orphanages and children.



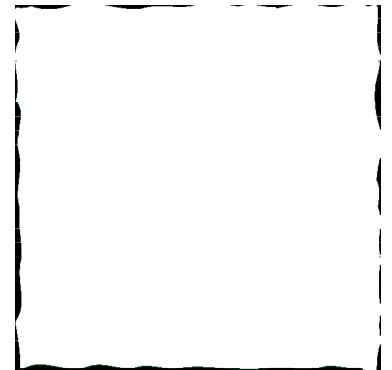
The sponsorship program is designed to help children physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Merry Christmas!

The Kidstown Board of Directors, staff, orphanage leaders, and of course, the children, want to wish each sponsor and donor a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year! We sincerely extend our heartfelt thanks for your involvement in this ministry.

With your help many children now have a much better place to live, more nutritious food to eat, warmer clothes to wear. Because of you, the lives of many children glow with the knowledge that somebody loves them. You have given these

children Christmas all year through. Your prayers, letters, and financial gifts speak volumes of your willingness to look beyond your own needs and to invest in the life of a child. May God richly bless you for caring for a precious child and may your hearts be filled with joy and peace.

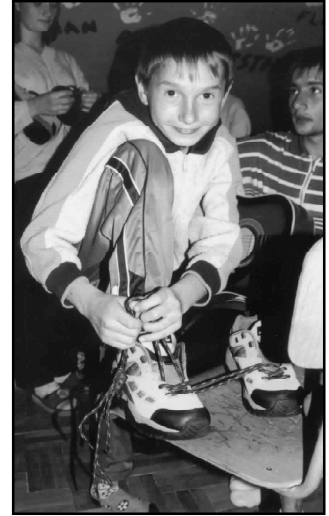


We need children's shoes!

Next summer Kidstown plans to send a 40' container to Romania with items for the use of the orphanages we support. Among other things, we want to send many pairs of shoes for the children. Montrail, a shoe company in Seattle, was extremely kind to us and donated over 200 pairs of shoes for the kids in Romania! Thank you, Montrail!

However, what we still need are shoes for small children, ages two to seven. Would you please consider giving a donation so we can purchase some shoes or would you buy a few pairs and send them to us?

This is a great way to put a smile on the face of a child!



Lucian, from the Casa Sperantei orphanage, happily puts on a pair of shoes which were donated by Montrail.

A Christmas to Remember



**Give the gift of love this Christmas:
sponsor a child!**

The Christmas season is a wonderful time to reflect on the meaning of Christmas. It is about Jesus, who came to earth to live among us, and then to die for us so that we wouldn't have to. Christmas is about love. Christmas is about giving to others. Have you ever wanted to do something a little different for Christmas than just exchange the usual socks, ties, and tupperware? Here is a challenging idea: consider sponsoring a child for a year. Make that your Christmas gift to your husband, wife, or family. This would be a great way to embody the true spirit of Christmas. Chances are, the only thing a little orphan will be able to give you in return is their prayers and love. How about it? Will you break the mold this Christmas? Will you make this a Christmas to remember?

Year-end donation

*Perhaps you are wanting to make a year-end donation to a charity. May we offer Kidstown as an option for you? There are many needs for which donations are highly appreciated. One of our upcoming expenses is the purchasing and shipping of a container which will cost about \$7,500. In 2002 Kidstown was accepted into the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Member organizations are required to obtain a financial audit or review each year. This coming year Kidstown needs to have an audit performed which will cost about \$5,000. Thirdly, Kidstown needs operational funds to be able to function. Would you be willing to give a donation to one of the three needs listed? Donations are tax-deductible.
Thank you for your consideration!*

