



HEART OF HOPE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

DONATE TO “A GIFT FROM THE HEART” 2019 EASTER PROGRAM



Debbie with children from the 2018 “Gift from the Heart” Easter food distribution campaign in the village of Combinat

Though we only provide a feeding program twice per year, at Christmas and Easter, it is one of the most memorable days each year. Combinat is primarily a gypsy community of dirt roads, lean-to shacks - some with indoor plumbing and some with-out, wobbly fences, skinny dogs, and beautiful children.

More than a decade ago Heart of Hope sponsored a children’s Bible club in Combinat. That club continues today under the sponsorship of another foundation, and twice per year we partner with them and fully provide a feeding program through Heart of Hope.

“I remember the first two times we tried to provide a feeding program in Combinat - I think it was around 2004/2005 - both times ended with police intervention and us needing to ‘shut down’ so people in need, who were afraid that we would run out, would stop fighting. At that time, we had set up food lines where a representative from each family could come through and take items for their family - though we had enough - there was just too much fear that ‘my family would be left out’. So, pushing and shoving took over and we had to stop. We provided care packages for children for a number of years after that and a few years ago we were ready to try once again a family food care package. THIS TIME, we tried insisting each family stay in their home and we will deliver right to their door - this works! There is still scuffling sometimes near the end where someone thinks they were forgotten or someone insists they were forgotten until gently reminded of who actually delivered the package to them, but all in all, it is a blessed time for this marginalized community. I typically wait with our staff at the vans and trailer we use while team members and volunteers distribute the 180 some family packages. Last year it was cold but sunny and I had these 5 ‘little helpers’ keep me company. It is truly good will towards all men that day at the most basic of levels, and as Dwight L. Moody said it best, “the gospel wrapped in a sandwich”.

Heart of Hope will also distribute Easter gifts to 8 Placement Centers, providing an Easter devotional and Easter gifts and sweets to children at this special time of year. We are grateful for your partnership to be able to provide these gifts to celebrate the risen Savior!

You can donate on our home page for either a family or child:

www.heartofhope.org



SPRING TEAMS READY TO SERVE!

It's been a terribly cold winter in Romania and we are ready for spring and the joy of spring team service!

March 23rd-April 7th: The Bernhardt Construction Team will come to help complete some of the finishing touches on the new Home of Hope. This skilled team of 4 men and 1 woman will paint, lay our laminate flooring, tile flooring and tile 3 and a half baths. It is a tall order and always a challenge when working under different construction circumstances than normal! All 4 men come from contractor and construction backgrounds and businesses and we are grateful they will use their skills and labor to bless the young women that will call Home of Hope their home!



April 12th – 20th: Packham Dental Team – Dr. Scott Packham, on his last trip to Sibiu, pictured standing and providing training to dental students as they provide care to children from Placement Centers. Dr. Scott Packham from Camarillo, CA; Dr. Caroline Shaw from Seattle, WA; and Dr. Mark McDade from Ventura, CA will provide student mentoring and patient care to children from 4 different Placement Centers their week of service in April. We know this means scheduling out their portion of office time and using personal vacation time to serve the least of these and we are so very thankful for those willing to use their professional skills to help children in need.



April 12th-19th: Oaks Christian High School service team. 9 students and 2 chaperone's from Oaks Christian High School have chosen to spend their spring break in service! Mornings will be spent at Camp of the Good Shepherd helping prepare for the summer 2019 season and afternoons will be spent providing a Vacation Bible School program to the children at the Turnu Rosu Placement Center. Gia, pictured at left from last year, is one of two return students who has chosen Romania for a second time – We are grateful for her love of children in need!

CAMP OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PREP!

Summer Dreaming...As we embrace the warmth of spring, we know that summer is just around the corner and that means Camp of the Good Shepherd prep time! We are grateful for those that have chosen a "Servication" this year! There are still a couple of spots left for the first 4 weeks of camp, the rest of summer is fully filled! Contact Debbie at sbdebbie01@gmail.com if you are interested in serving.

CAMP SCHEDULE 2019

June 24th-29th: Boys & girls, Turnu Rosu Special Education Placement Center
July 1st-6th: Boys & girls, Fagaras Special Education Placement Center
July 8th-13th: Boys, Agarbiciu Placement Center
July 15th-20th: Boys & girls, Orlat Placement Center
July 22nd-27th: Boys & girls, Village Bible Club Ministry
July 29th-August 3rd: Youth, Hegel Placement Center

Thank you dear Home Team
for your support and prayers!

Yours in Partnership,

Debbie and your
HHMI Board