

Dear supporters,

Here comes another greeting from Marghita. Thank you for supporting us and the work here.

The dream of a beautiful life

Many times we meet a person in distress and difficulty exactly in the moment when a lack of material resources prevents him/her from being able to continue a decent life. When we are doing our best to help someone, we don't just help them with material things but so much more by offering them care, love and friendship. One of the special things for those in our different projects is that they are given the opportunity to dream of a better and beautiful life.

Every life is precious in God's eyes and for this reason we are called to respect everyone including those living in difficult and poor situations and to show them that we are all equally valuable. There is no age limit when people cease to dream, but there are thresholds in life that we go through differently. Our ability to dream depends, almost entirely, on how we perceive the hope that the dream can actually become reality.

To live doesn't simply mean to go through life but rather it means to make the most of and enjoy every day of our lives. For each of those we help, we desire them to live life fully and dream of a good life.

Thank you everyone who gives those we help the courage to dream!

Valentina Ferche President FCE



The day of the opening

The hygiene centre

After a long time of hard work and sacrifice, the big yellow building, which is situated in the Roma community on the outskirts of Marghita, was officially opened on the 17th of May.

It consists of two parts, one is called the hygiene centre and is made of bricks in the Romanian way with showers, toilets and washing machines. The other part is called the community centre and is made of wooden blocks that are manufactured in Sweden by volunteers. Here there is a kitchen, activity area for children and an area for both theoretical and practical courses for adults. For more pictures from the grand opening, check out FCE on Facebook.

The Kozak family, a family with four children, are happy for the new possibilities for a better life in the Roma community. The father says that it is good for their whole family and everyone who lives there. "Now we can shower in hot, running water and we and our children can keep clean, which is very important," he says enthusiastically.



His wife is glad that she doesn't have to carry water and heat it to be able to do laundry by hand. "Now I will have time to do other things," she says and smiles. The fourteen year old daughter loves to be able to keep her long and beautiful hair clean and combed. When we opened the centre she asked us how many times a day she could come! The father summarises the little family interview with these words: "We are very grateful for the hygiene block and have nothing to complain about!"

Kerekes Csaba

A gift from God

Attila is a handsome twenty year old who finished school this year. His foster mum, Florica Suci, tells us about him and his life in a warm way. First she explains how she came to be with FCE from the beginning. "It was a prayer meeting at coffee time and I was being interviewed for a job at Casa Albă".

"It was very overwhelming learning about the needs of the abandoned children. They needed love more than discipline. Now I have both practical and theoretical experience thanks to the years I worked at Casa Albă and the courses provided by FCE. At work I used to be assigned to care for the children with the biggest needs. At first, when Attila came, I wanted to protest, I didn't want to take care of him. He was too difficult and I cried. God touched me and gave me love to love the boy and a promise to be there with me".

It seemed like Attila didn't perceive anything from his surroundings but Florica started to take him to treatments and did exercises with him very patiently. She often had bruises from when the boy unwillingly hit her. Her desire for him was one day to be able to walk and to communicate verbally. It was clear that he was blind but he also seemed to have other problems that made him not even try to communicate.

Eventually, when Attila was nine years old, Florica and her family took the step to take him from Casa Silvia and bring him home as a foster child. He is loved very much and soon he gained friends and church member's hearts. He loves God, the church, people and music. Florica says that he is a gift from God.

She is grateful to FCE and to those who support them economically for everything that is needed to help and care for Attila. If you listen patiently, you can hear what Attila says. He can walk but needs a guide due to his blindness. While growing up, he could only eat puréed food but with God's help and Florica's patient training, he has learned how to chew. He is an attentive and sharp boy, satisfied with life.

The women who are employed at FCE had the opportunity to listen to Florica's story on International Women's Day on the 8th March. She also shared about her eldest daughter who died at the age of twenty-six after carrying a disease for nine years. She was an educational psychologist and was a blessing to many people. Attila, among many others, grieves her deeply but because of her life and death the whole family came to believe in God. Her sister is very close to Attila and can care for him when mama Florica no longer can.



Attila och Florica

Joyful Camps

The camp building in the village of Chişlaz is used all through the summer for camps for all the children and young people in FCE's different projects.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed both economically and prayerfully so that these camps could be successful!



Brothers on camp

The first week, a group of young people and leaders from Scotland came to help which was very meaningful for both the children on camp and for themselves.

After that, different camps running from Monday to Friday have taken place one after another. Children from the Family homes, After School project, the Roma community, Special needs school and from poor families have attended and enjoyed wonderful days on camp. Even the young people from the Day Centre, Casa Silvia and the halfway home Brânduşa have been on camp.

To be together, eat good meals, do fun activities, learn new things and to grow in their faith in God provides each person with a quality week with good memories and energy.

Diana's story

Diana just turned 18 and has graduated from the 10th grade in the special needs school. She says that she will miss school and the teachers there.

She doesn't remember much from her childhood, but she came to Casa Albă when she was five or six years old and has been told how she later moved to Casa Silvia. During the Christmas period, the children from Casa Albă were taken home by the staff. Diana celebrated Christmas together with the staff and children at Casa Silvia. She liked it there and with a firm voice she said: "- I want to stay here at Casa Silvia!"

Diana likes to help with chores in the house. "It is fun to cook and make cakes." She likes to go on the swing, go on excursions, attend the Club and go to church. "I love to sing and I have a nice voice", Diana says with a sunny smile.

"I love God and I sing to Him. He is my life and I want to honour Him with all of my heart. I pray to God that people will be helped. I have food every day but I think of the children that are poor. I am glad that FCE, who trusts in God, helps people. I want to be a friend to those in need, to talk to them and to help them. I like to help other people. This is my message to all of you who help us. Take care of yourselves, everyone!"



Diana

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Jesus, Matt 25:40

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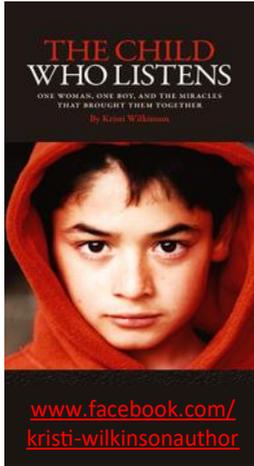
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Order the book!

The book 'The Child who listens' can be ordered on Amazon or from Barnes & Nobles.

It is a touching story about a child from Marghita who, against all odds, was adopted to USA. For everyone who visited Marghita at the end of the nineties or would have wanted to, the book is a must.

The author will donate all profit of the books to FCE's work in Romania.

How to donate to FCE Marghita from the US

1. Send your donation by check to:

*Sonrise Community Church
PO Box 282
Ney, OH, 43549-0282*

2. Remember to write "FCE Romania" on the memo line

The church will forward the money to FCE 2-4 times per year depending on the amounts they receive.



Gifts

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