

NEWSLETTER

Dear supporters,

Here is another greeting from Marghita. Thank you for all your support during this year.

Shared joy

The work in Marghita is like a puzzle, made up from many pieces. A beautiful picture is being created from all those who are involved helping in the work, together with those who are being helped. Everyone is an important piece of the puzzle and the best thing is that we are all needed in order for the puzzle to be complete.

Recently we had the honor of visiting Sweden. Each time, we want to share the achievements and joy with all of you who are involved in the work and make it possible for us to work here. You deserve to share this joy. As usual, we met wonderful people who desire to work hard so that we can continue to save people from a hard life of being marginalized and discriminated against.

Whilst we were in Sweden, we were able to share with people what has been happening and also our thoughts and plans for the future.

We visited a Second Hand shop in Sweden who works for FCE and I am very impressed by the volunteers who work there.

We also had a big meeting in Sweden to present the work of FCE.

Here we met people who have been involved in the work for many years. I asked myself how they can continue to be so faithful and devoted. It warms my heart when I think how we are from different places in the world, yet all linked together in the work of FCE. You all inspire me and fill me with strength to go on.

You are my models from whom I have learnt so much. When we listen together to God's call to love each other and show that through our actions, then we are all an important part in helping to save our 'neighbour'.

Valentina Ferche, President



All the children in Fce say Thank you to all of you supporters



Harvest

I like Autumn. One works through the year and now it is the time to harvest. Different types of fruit pass through our hands. Many of them are not perfect but they taste wonderful. This is similar in FCE. Now in the Autumn we evaluate the work, make plans and celebrate our achievements.

In the last couple of years we have focused on helping the biggest Roma community in Marghita. We have gained people's trust there and have succeeded in reviving their hope. Through the activities run by FCE, they can take steps forward in their lives. The pre-school children in the community have the opportunity to participate in a group that starts to prepare them for school. Six adults in the community have got jobs and that stimulates others to look for work too. Some of them have started to do a literacy course whilst others participate in a sewing course, helping to prepare them and provide them with a skill they can then use to find work in a factory.

Time, patience and knowledge are all needed to produce a good harvest. We 'clothe' ourselves with these things and together with faith in God we expect a rich harvest.

Lidia Micula, Director FCE

Community centre

The Hygiene centre and Community centre in the Roma community opened in May this year and the work there has started well through the Summer and Autumn. Those employed there have many ideas and nice plans for how the work can develop and help raise up the people who live there in order to enrich their lives. Courses to learn to cook and sew are taking place, going forward

slowly in pace with those taking part. Maria Moca tells us about the work with the pre-school group which is a success thinking about what the children have already learnt.

"I go around to the houses in the morning and collect the children and some are starting to come on their own". You can see that Maria does this with joy. The children enjoy the pre-school class and what they learn there will help them when it is time to start school. Previously, the children in the Roma community were unfortunately ill-prepared and were behind in school from the very beginning, if they even went to school.

"Some mums usually come and make the sandwiches and help with the cleaning. We build relationships with them and help them to integrate," says Maria. Together with her colleagues, they have started to design useful workshops in the wonderful building.



Maria and a group of preschoolers

A help for others

Frederic Balla, who is called Frigheș, has been a support for FCE's volunteers and employees since the middle of the 1990s. For some years, he has been a member of FCE's board. He is a pastor for several churches in Săcuieni and the surrounding area and is a teacher at the secondary school in Cadea. When he first started there, he was

warehouse manager but since it was common with corruption among the employees, he was soon unwanted there because he did not accept theft and other illegal activities. As the first free church pastor in the country, he was then given the job as the Religious Education teacher at the school.

Frigheş meant so much to the teenage orphans who were sent to Cadea to get a vocational qualification. In this place, which was called 'hell on earth', a lot of comfort was needed. Sometimes it was only his classes that they went to and even those who usually skived off school were there to hear the wonderful message of a loving father. Through his guitar playing and singing, he reached even the toughest ones.

"I must preach the good news to the very end because I have no way of knowing what it will become. Only God knows what is in the heart."

Frigheş tells how he often meets old students and observes that the seeds he sowed are present in their lives. "Because of the little they had in their lives, they had nothing to lose by listening to me," says Frigheş, suggesting that it would be more difficult for a rich person to enter into heaven.

Frigheş' parents moved to USA and wanted him to go too but he felt he had a calling to stay in Romania. He is glad he could help other people.

Frigheş and his wife are great role models in the church and in society as a whole when it comes to looking after their severely disabled son, who is now 28 years old.

Unfortunately, the tradition in Romania was,

and partly still is, to abandon your disabled children in an institution. His family is a big encouragement for other families in the same situation. "I have spoken to many fathers and was able to give them courage. I am very proud that we have been able to look after our son. It strengthens us," finishes Frigheş with a big smile on his face.



Frigheş

Christmas gifts

Now, when Christmas is coming and people open their hearts, it's a great time to be able to give a gift to those in need. You can send a financial gift directly to the work of FCE in the relevant account for your currency. Any gift, big or small, is greatly appreciated and makes a big difference.

*We wish you all a
wonderful Advent and
Christmas time!
A really warm
thank you for all your
support in 2019!
Greetings from FCE*

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

Jesus, Matt 25:40

Contact Organisations

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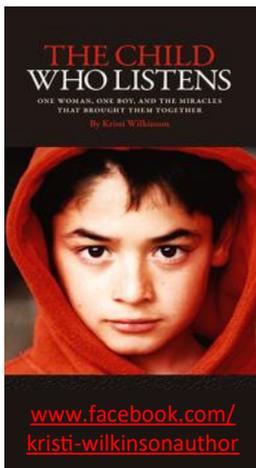
Sonrise Community Church

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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

Banca Comerciala Romana
Sucursala Marghita
Cod: SWIFT: RNCBROBU

Account number: GBP - RO58RNCB0035022151630003
(IBAN) USD - RO85RNCB0035022151630002
EUR - RO31RNCB0035022151630004

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