



Semn de Viață

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DEAR FRIENDS AND PARTNERS, GREETINGS FROM THE SIGN OF LIFE ASSOCIATION!

In these few months our Maternal Centre hosted 8 mothers and 10 children, as well as 6 adults and 13 children from Ukraine in the. We have continued to provide assistance through our Community Outreach Programs to 30 families in need and 25 families of former residents.

În April and Mai we received visits and had the opportunity to visit others

Marlies Louis

Marlies Louis, a painter from Germany, visited us together with her husband. We had a therapeutic relaxation time, well received by both the staff and the beneficiaries, in the painting workshop organized by Marlies Louis.



The Painting Workshop



The Paintings

Maternal Centre :
8 MOTHERS, 10 CHILDREN

Ukrainean Refugees:
6 MOTHERS, 13 CHILDREN

Social Aid:

30 DE FAMILII

Social Aid for Former Beneficiaries:

25 DE FAMILII



Marlies and her husband, together with a mother



Marlies and her husband, the mothers and staff

Visiting disabled children

In April the mothers visited a foundation for children with disabilities in Bucharest. Together we prepared packages containing sweets, toys and clothes, and gave them to the children. Our goal was for the mothers to have a realistic and thankful perspective on the life they have. One of the things that touched them was seeing the physical limits and helplessness of the disabled children and they had the opportunity to divert their attention from their own needs and observe other vulnerable people.

Anke and Jost

In May we enjoyed the visit of our partners from Germany, Anke and Jost. Anke shared from her experience as a children's educator and gave us new perspectives, while Joust showed his interest in getting to know the mothers' stories more closely.

June 1st - International Children's Day

It was a day of joy, and the mothers carried out creative activities, such as drawing, face painting, decorating photo frames. They also received gifts from the Sign of Life Association.



Monthly Activities

Mother's School

The "Mothers' School" program is an educational and social project that started in 2013. This monthly program is aimed at families with underage mothers or adults with children aged 0-12 months, offering counselling and parenting education. The beneficiaries also receive monthly material support: formula milk, disposable diapers, clothing and footwear - as long as we have them, non-perishable food and sanitary items.

Social Aid Programme

The social aid programme is aimed at families who have benefited from the residential services offered by the "Sign of Life" Association. They receive monthly material aid consisting of food, clothing and shoes - as long as we have them, household items, as well as social and psychological counselling if needed.



Ana and Matei



Antonia



Baby Club - Manu and Anaïs



Manu and Anais



Baby Club - Ana and Matei



Playing Volleyball with the Mothers



Social Aid Distribution



Social Aid Distribution - staff, Daniela



Social Aid Distribution - staff, Ana Maria and Mariana

MY STORY

Flori is 30 years old and mothers 4 children: Stefan, Alessia, Andreas and Anastasia. Stefan lives with his father. Flori turned to us for help last year because they were evicted from their grandmother's house where they lived with other family members. Her father died when Flori was just a child and her mother has no resources to support her.

Flori comes from a large family with many deprivations and problems. She has 11 other siblings, most of whom have ended up in foster care because of their precarious situation and poverty. Until the age of 12, Flori was brought up in foster care, then stayed with her mother for a while. Due to an unhealthy entourage, she rarely attended school. As a result, she only completed 6th grade and then dropped out. As a teenager she often got involved with boys older than her. She ended up getting married at the age of 17 and gave birth to 3 children. After a few years she divorced and was left alone with 2 young children, the eldest continuing to live with his father. After this relationship she met other men through social media. She engaged in a few relationships, but they wouldn't last long and would often lead to arguments, violence and finally break-ups. At the age of 28 Flori gave birth to her fourth child, Anastasia, as a result of her cohabiting relationship. Flori was not at peace with her partner's idea of giving her newborn daughter to foreigners in exchange for a sum of money to cover the financial debts and shortages they had accumulated. With this conflict in the background and the eviction, having no certainty of tomorrow, Flori felt overwhelmed by the situation and turned to help in order not to lose her children. This is when she was admitted in the Maternal Centre at Sign of Life.

She is grateful that we have provided her with a warm, supportive environment that has encouraged her to fight for her children and herself. Here she has found peace, security and above all, hope to move forward. She and her children felt protected and safe. The conditions offered and the things provided helped her to see this place as a home and a much needed family.



Throughout her residency, Flori has shown that she is determined to provide a different future for her children. She mobilized herself, taking the children to school every day. The Association supported with their enrolment in school, as well as medical check-ups and treatment. Due to some difficulties in adapting to school the children had to see a psychiatrist. Flori was thorough in following the necessary steps, as recommended by the doctor. She is currently participating in parenting education activities and in the future she wants to finish her studies, enrol her youngest daughter in day care and find a job.

Another thing that has changed in Flori's life since she came to Sign of Life is that she has come to know God better through the chapel activity organised by the association. She started going to church and decided to follow the Lord. We are happy with the progress Flori has made, even though she still needs support on the spiritual, emotional and practical side.

Testimonies of Sign of Life staff

Mariana G - Educator

The joy of being with and helping vulnerable people is what motivates and satisfies me in the work I have been doing for 11 years at Sign of Life. In working with mothers, through personalised interventions and anything big or small, I aim at the harmonious development of mother-child couples and the restoration of self-confidence that gives them the strength to move forward confidently.

Tibi - steward

I have been working at Sign of Life for over 5 years and it is a pleasant experience for me to work with a united team with Christian values. What has kept me going is the fact that together we can help mothers and babies who are going through difficulties. What surprises me is how God works in the lives of mothers and besides the effort we put in, He intervenes in a direct way and makes Himself known to them.

My role is administrative, I keep the building in shape and supply the centre with everything the mothers need, but I know that God is the one who takes care of all their needs and especially of their spiritual ones. It is a joy when mothers come to thank me for any support I offer.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Please support us in prayer for:

- pregnant women in our centre, may they give birth safely and may God protect them and provide for them;
- God's protection over the babies and mothers in the centre;
- Refugees in tense situations: some family members have stayed in Ukraine and some of their spouses are fighting in the war.
- the staff, for wisdom to make good management decisions, strength to face challenges, love and openness in difficult situations and also team unity.
- funding. Prices have risen and we need more funds to cover all needs.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
GOD BLESS YOU!