



**NEWSLETTER  
CHRISTMAS 2007**

**TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS A VERY HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR!**

**HOWEVER ---- PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO REFLECT WITH US  
UPON THE PAST YEAR IN ROMANIA;**

January saw Romania enter the EU as a full member, lots of partying and celebrating and hope for the future. Very much like the early days following the revolution of 1989, anticipation of better things to come. It is true that some things have improved in Romania. There is economic growth, and tremendous wealth in parts, but, go out into the villages still, and find another world in another time. Are we still needed? Very definitely YES.

We continue to develop and run the School for Parents, Holiday clubs, Education Support Programme, Early Years Programme, Open eyes (young adults with Downs Syndrome), Sex education and taking part in the National Programme for local authority monitoring.

Highlights of the year have included the exploring of a link for early years through a fledgling partnership between the university of Sibiu and Newman College Birmingham. Aurelia was awarded first prize at the European conference for contraception in Bucharest for her poster entry. Vasile has successfully completed all his training for Gestalt Family and individual Therapy and Alex has completed his PhD. in History. Nuti has started a social work training course with the local authority. We have had a steady stream of visitors who have supported all of the projects and groups of young people from Trafford and Adina's friends

who raised their own money to help with holiday clubs and leave money for the Charity.

Our Christmas wish list - to continue our work into 2008 and beyond we still need to raise at least £3000 per month for all the projects. We have a shortfall this Christmas of at least £2000 to pay the staff and give them a gift of a bonus and a team Christmas meal. Fundraising remains a challenge as people think that being a member of the EU suddenly makes everything in Romania OK - we remind ourselves that UK society would not exist without charities that support all of our national institutions and our communities. This is even more the case in Romania.

WE WOULD LIKE TO APPEAL TO YOU THIS CHRISTMAS TO CONSIDER GIVING REGULARLY A SMALL AMOUNT PER MONTH AND MAYBE TO CONSIDER A FUND-RAISING EVENT OR OCCASIONAL DONATION.

You can now give through our website [www.uk-share.org.uk](http://www.uk-share.org.uk) click onto donations and find a secure method of giving through "Just Giving". Or let us know and we will send you a form.

A big Thank you to all of our supporters past and present, without you we would not survive. In January we celebrate 18 years of working in Romania our baby has now become an adult and our work will develop to reflect this. More news about this in January/February.

We hope to produce monthly updates on our work in the future please send us your current e-mail address or you can access the newsletters through the website. If you would prefer a printed copy please let us know.

Thank you  
Mandy & Steve and all at Ascensium/SHARE



A peaceful New Year to All

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