



FUNDATIA NEW LIFE

Stonehall Farmhouse, Stonebow Road, Drakes Broughton, Pershore, Worcestershire

Summer 2024

Dear friend and supporter of Fundatia,

I don't know about you but it feels to me like it has been a long time since our last newsletter. As always, I cannot wait to update you with news on the house!



By the time you get this newsletter it will be the middle of the summer. As we do every year, as soon as the spring comes, we start working on the garden and around the house. There is always something to do! The main job is to keep the garden clean as it is quite large and cutting the grass is a difficult task. We are trying to involve the boys as much as possible. Out of all the boys, Gabi is always very happy to help. He is the most active one and he just loves to help the staff.

Another job that we must do every other year is to build some shade on the side of the house where the boys can sit during the long and hot summer days. As always, I am doing this myself, with the help of Sandu and Gabi!



Since the early days of the house, I have always believed that the boys should have a normal life, like any kids would have in a normal family. It is very important for them to go out, to socialize! This is why we go shopping together and we go to the camp in the mountains with other boys and girls from the Special School in Slobozia. They also love the short trips we take for a day, once a month, to visit places or churches in our area.



I cannot end this letter, before I say that very soon it will be one year since God decided to give Fanel a place in heaven! One year without Fanel at the house! I have to be honest with you and say that the house has never been the same!

Out of all the boys, Gabi is the one who was most affected by the loss! I do remember that weeks after the funeral he was still confused, like he lost his guidance; he asks about Fanel quite often! And everyone at the house misses him! We cannot forget Fanel! Therefore, once in a while we go to the cemetery to visit his grave. In the orthodox faith, we offer a lot of attention to the people who have died and to the place where the person was buried. As a matter of fact, very soon we will have to replace the wooden cross with a cement one, like every Romanian family would do! I am very confident that somehow, the necessary amount for that will be found!



Over the years, I said many times that I am amazed about how God works to provide for our needs. It is getting more and more difficult to keep the house running as the prices rise every month and the needs are different now compared to twenty years ago. But every day I see so many signs that we must keep it going. I would like to give you just two small examples:



*Some time ago, the staff told me that we need a new digital thermometer as the old one was dead. So, I went online, I did some search and ordered one. The next day I get a call from the store where I made the order. The voice said: **"I noticed you ordered a thermometer and I have also noticed that it is for a charity. She continues: I would like to pay for it! Is that ok?"** I am speechless! A person I have never met, never talked to, wants to pay for the thermometer!*

The second story I want to tell you about – it happened just a few weeks ago! Well... it is the middle of the summer at the moment and I think that it will

*probably be one of the hottest ever. And there is no air-conditioning at the house as we always had other priorities. But this summer I had no other choice but to try to buy one. So, I went to a local shop to check prices but there was a problem with the installation time as the store was very busy. Before I went to pay for it, I remembered I knew somebody who could do the work for us. So, I called the person to see if there is a chance to do it quicker! He said: **take the A.C. unit back! By the end of the day, I will send a team with a brand new A.C. to install at the house and it will be our donation to the charity!** Almost instantly I felt like crying! There are kind and generous people in this country!*



This example gives me hope for the future. It gives me the hope that one day, the Romanians will be able to fully support the house. At the moment we still need your support and I hope that it will continue.

I hope you all have a great, nice, hot summer – not as hot as we already have over here – although Ray tells me that the English summer so far has not been hot at all!

With best wishes from all of us at the Amara House,

Marius Istrate,
Project manager