

heart response

... responding to the cry of the orphan and the widow



Newsletter 5/ Winter 2015

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'Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this, to look after orphans and widows in their distress..'(James 1:27)

Note from the Chairman

I'd like to start by wishing you all a very happy new year and thanking you for all your support over the past year with Heart Response – without our supporters we simply could not do all that we are doing in Romania, so thank you once again!

I've just finished reading a book called 'Fields of the Fatherless' by C. Thomas Davis, which I've found very interesting and I'd like to share a section of it with you to encourage you, at the start of this new year, to continue striving to do all you can to support vulnerable women and children.

"If you were to search the Bible from front to back, you'd find many issues close to God's heart, but you'd also notice three groups of people coming up again and again. They appear so many times, in fact, you have to conclude that God mentions them purposely to make sure they are at the top of our priority list. These three groups are the orphans, widows and aliens (strangers). What these people have in common is their desperate need of provision and protection. They are the weak, under – privileged, and the needy among us. The Bible mentions the importance of caring for these individuals more than sixty times! Clearly, the protection and well-being of this group are one of God's great and constant concerns. They are the people on His heart and they are the people He wants on our hearts too."

May God bless you all, Tish Robberts (Charity Chairman)

Charity Mission Statement

Heart Response is a Christian charity set up to follow Jesus' example of selfless love and support marginalised women and children.

Heart Response aims to respond practically, financially and prayerfully to Christian ministries, primarily in Romania, serving the needs of desperate women and children in their society.

Heart Response seeks to raise awareness of the people and projects they support, highlighting the difficulties, but also

Heart Response Facebook Page



103 Likes

We have reached the target of 100 likes by Christmas!

Good Samaritan Church and Ecce Homo

We support the ministries of the Good Samaritan Church in Ocna Mures, Romania and two Christian orphanages run by Ecce-Homo in Cluj Napoca, Romania. The Good Samaritan church run Sanctuary Orphanage, Gypsy children feeding programmes and work with poor widows and women in local prisons.

Fundraising and Donations



We have again been able to give £500 to the widows' ministry, which is going to provide food parcels, we hope this will help to relieve the strain the poor feel every winter in trying to afford both food and heating. This money has helped 27 widows. We have also been able to buy every child at Sanctuary Orphanage a Christmas present of slippers and jumpers.



Our back to school campaign went very well, and every child in Ecce-homo's orphanages received a back pack full of stationary, shoes, clothes toiletries and other gifts. We also gave coats to every child that needed a new one this winter – and if you contributed you should have received a letter with thanks directly from the children and photos. These can also be seen on our facebook page.



Welly Boot Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our wellie boot appeal for the gypsy children living in and around Ocna Mures. We have been able to send around 200 pairs of wellies helping the children to keep their dry feet this winter, which is amazing! More pictures to follow....



Visit update from Shirley Robberts

Although my daughter Tish had been to visit and help the Good Samaritan Church in Romania and she had told me so much about her experiences, nothing could have prepared me for when I went out there last November. The poverty in some parts of the country is unbelievable! The children in the gypsy villages, well I wanted to bring them all home, they are so poor and hungry.

We helped at all the feeding programmes that the church ran. We visited a hospital where there were very sick elderly people. They are given only very basic care, some we prayed with, some we just held their hands and cried with. We also visited some widows and gave them warm coats and clothes because they do not have enough money for the essentials – they were very appreciative.



The orphans in the orphanage were such lovely children and although they have no father and mother to care for them, the staff that look after them are such lovely Christians they seem to be happy and well cared for.

The church who support all these ministries are amazing and tireless, but what challenged me most was how much by prayer and great faith they cry out to the Lord for all their needs and He always answers and provides. You can see the joy of the Lord in them in the midst of such a sad county. It certainly was a life changing experience and I feel compelled to do all I can to continue to support the work of Heart Response in it's work in Ocna Mures.



Your Support

Financial contributions are always needed, we have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters again and again, but the needs are ongoing.

Sanctuary Orphanage would really appreciate gifts of underwear, especially for the boys (including a few young adults).

Clothes for the widows are needed, again, especially underwear (mainly sizes 14+) including bras and warm tights.

Prayer Support

Please consider whether you can commit to praying for a specific child regularly, as we are just in the process of setting up a way for supporters to do this, including receiving some specific requests and a profile about the child. Get in touch if you feel this is something you could do.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for the financial needs of Sanctuary Orphanage and Ecce Homo, both are struggling for funding.

Please pray for all those in Romania who will be struggling to pay for both food and heating this winter, especially the widows in Ocna.

Please pray for heart response, that all the work we do would be for the Lord and that it would always be for His glory, in particular that we can build stronger relationships with the workers and children.

For Sanctuary Orphanage:

Please pray for the workers, as they are overworked and many are coming down with illness this winter. Pray for healing and for God's provision of another worker.

One of the teenage girls has recently left the orphanage and the workers are concerned for her safety. Please pray that God keeps her safe and that she would trust in Him. We regret that we cannot give out any details of the situation.

For Ecce Homo:

The orphanage struggles somewhat with workers only staying for a short time; please pray that God would put the right people here to work with the children long term and that they can build up good relationships that show the love of God.

Become a 'Friend of Heart Response'

If you would like to receive regular information about heart response and get involved with fundraising or donating you can become an official 'Friend of heart response'. Please contact us for more details.



Events coming up....

Quiz Night

Tuesday 10th February – 7pm for 7.30pm

Dorchester Durnovaria Bar

Please call Jen to enter your team (maximum 6 people) - £5 each
07527 241958

Black Sheep Barn Dance

Saturday 18th April – 7.30pm

Stratton Village Hall

Please call Shirley for tickets - £10 each including nibbles
07973 120235

Charity Walk

We are looking to organise another walk in May.

**If you would like to hold a fundraising event on behalf of Heart Response please do get in touch –
We would love to hear from you!**

Special Thank Yous

Thank you once again to all of our supporters – without you this work wouldn't be possible.