



# Siloam's Ministry of Giving (2 Corinthians 8:6)

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## Dear Siloam friends and investors

Yes, it's time for Siloam's Bible camps again. But, this is the first time ever that we have encountered the severe disruption to our worldwide ministry that the 'Coronavirus' pandemic has brought us!!

A few of our camps this year will simply not take place and those that do will no doubt be delayed until everyone is happy that it is safe to do so. As I write, camps have already been called off in Portugal and Bulgaria but I am determined to support our faithful partners overseas as best we can by having our funds ready and available for when their proposed Bible camps do take place. Although our first young people's Bible camp took place in Poland in early February before the current pandemic 'lockdown,' all future plans have had to be modified since 1st March, many plans are still in the 'uncertain tray' on my desk.

But, let us be positive as we look to the future and remember our ministry's calling to try and win the lives of young people and children for the Kingdom of God.

To repeat our long standing Siloam 'mantra,' **we know of no better way to prevent a young person from embarking on a life of crime, becoming interested in experimenting with drugs and harmful substances, or being addicted to alcohol and tobacco, than by arranging a personal confrontation with the life-changing message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.**

The Scripture Union keep telling us, rightly so, that most young people make up their minds about their future lifestyles between the ages of 16 and 18.

The Holy Scripture also clearly tells us in Proverbs 22: 6 "Teach your children the right path, and when they are older, they will remain upon it." (N.L.T)

Investing in the future lives of young people and those who are seeking to win



Siloam has been involved in helping children in Romania since our early aid visits back in 1990. We prefer to work through reliable national partners and empower them to do the ministry which God has called them to do.



The camp we sponsored last year near Brasov provided a Christian holiday for 44 children between 8 and 16 years of age.



The children were given the opportunity to visit areas in and around Brasov that tourists normally enjoy and that our children may not have previously had the opportunity of visiting.

More over page ►►►



Most of the children came from the two residential homes run by P.R.R although others were invited to join the group who came from poor homes.



There were several craft sessions to enjoy and many friendship bonds were made between the staff and the children.



The 44 children were looked after by 8 adults who together became good friends enjoying the wonderful activities P.R.R were able to organise.

them for the Kingdom of God, is surely the most important ministry anyone can do.

At a time when most young people are being bombarded, particularly in school, by the unproven claims of evolution, is it any wonder that their moral compass has become confused and they no longer really know what is right and what is wrong?

If children are taught not to take the Holy Scripture seriously, could it be this is why so many fall prey to those that would influence them and seek to exploit them for their own ends?

Siloam believes that by teaming up and empowering local church based groups overseas to organise children's Bible camps, we can reinforce belief in the Holy Scriptures. This is the way we at Siloam believe we can empower the church today to rescue more children and young people from a certain lost eternity if they do not accept God's gift offered to us all, the gift of eternal life in the now and hereafter.

Please look at the photos which were taken during our sponsored camp in Romania in August 2019. Let those same images speak into your heart and help you to prayerfully decide how much you should invest in this children's outreach that will surely result in many children choosing to commit themselves to Jesus Christ.

It costs just over £90.00 per child last year to finance this holiday. That is only £18.00 per day per child. However, because of the expected higher costs of holding a camp later in the year, we are anticipating that our costs per child per day will rise to £23. This is how we arrive at the amount we have budgeted of £5,000.00.

This will be Siloam's second Bible camp for 2020 we plan to hold, others will follow once we hear back from our partners of their local situation. In the meantime, I am urging you to stand with Siloam this month to help fund this project which will undoubtedly have an impact on the future lives of many of these precious children.

Your gift of £5.00, £10.00, £25.00, £50.00 or £100.00 will help us arrive at our budgeted total of £5,000.00. Together we can surely do this!

Yours sincerely on behalf of the youngsters we are trying to reach with the gospel of Jesus Christ

Richard Norton  
Director-Siloam UK



P.S. Because of the pandemic emergency, we are also encouraging Siloam friends, that feel prompted to do so, to help with the general expenses of Project Romanian Rescue and the current shortfall in their budget to be able to maintain their two children's residential homes so desperately needed in Romania right now. Please consider investing with P.R.R now or later, after you have read their February/April newsletter which we are sharing with you. – Thank you.

**Please make all your donations payable to: Siloam Christian Ministries**

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# R<sup>+</sup> PROJECT ROMANIAN RESCUE

O speranță și un viitor mai bun pentru copiii în situați de risc din România



*The P.R.R group were accommodated at Vila Negrea in the village of Simon-Bran near Brasov. It was a lovely friendly guesthouse that provided excellent facilities.*

*Anticipating rising costs because of the Coronavirus pandemic, Siloam has budgeted £5,000.00 for this year's camp in August.*

Outdoor activities and early morning exercises kept the children extremely busy during the 5 day visit.

The guesthouse provided 3 excellent meals each day which were thoroughly enjoyed by the 44 children as well as the 8 adult helpers who came along to supervise them.



Visits to the botanical gardens in Brasov and also other local tourist attractions were also arranged.

Visits to Bran Castle and the Rasnov Citadel were popular places of interest for the children as was indeed, Peles Castle.



*Walking in the great outdoors was also very popular, although it rained for a day and a half but it did not seem to dampen the children's fun.*



The youngsters learned Bible lessons and enjoyed singing Christian songs as well as learning memory verses.

Divided into 3 groups who went in turns to 4 different stations where staff would lead them in challenging activities.

*Taking children away from their regular mundane surroundings and exposing them to places of interest that would not normally be accessible to them, helps to expand their minds and provide an opportunity to broaden their interests.*



Keeping hungry children happy and providing nourishing treats until the next mealtime.

A day out at the botanical gardens in Brasov was a memorable event and here many of the children enjoyed candy floss and other rich treats.



*Please send your prayerful investment for our August camp by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - thank you.*



Distribution of prizes and awards is also an important aspect of encouraging children to perform well in competitions.

The meals provided rich nutrition were very much appreciated by the children so that the physical activities could be enjoyed to the full.



Learning memory verses Siloam believes is very important and helps children to prepare themselves with scriptures that can be called to mind in a later emotional crisis.

*Each child's holiday last year cost £90.00, that's only £18.00 a day!*

*This summer because of the anticipated extra costs caused by the 'Covid-19' pandemic, we will expect to pay maybe? £23.00 per day for each deserving child. - Please help if you feel prompted by the Holy Spirit. - Thank you.*



*The final night campfire provided a perfect ending for a great week in the mountains around Brasov. Please pray with us and allow the Lord to prompt you if it's His Will that you should share generously with us again this summer.*

*- Thank you.*



# PROJECT ROMANIAN RESCUE

*A hope and a future for the 'at risk' children of România*

Chris Hamby, *President*

Marian Serban, *Executive Director*

## PRR newsletter February – April 2020

### **Isolation; sacrifice; holy celebration; renewed hope**

*The people who know their God shall stand firm and take action (Daniel 11:32)*

Dear friends, Jesus is alive! How great is God's love, lavished on us all!

We pray that you, our supporters are all well and that God will protect you and your families through this time.

Our life has been extremely seriously affected by the global pandemic situation, but we continue to experience the presence and provision of our Father in this very challenging time of isolation, social distancing, uncertainty and blockages. All of us are currently in good health, both the children in the homes and the staff. We coped well so far mentally, emotionally and physically.



*Easter traditional meal in the yard of Casa Anna.  
Children and staff in both homes cooked and then exchanged dishes*



We welcomed the lovely spring weather God gave us and the children are able to go out in the sunshine in the small yards and gardens, for which we are so grateful.

*8 of the 10 Casa Benjamin boys, happy and grateful for their presents, although this was the only gift they received this Easter*

**Casa Anna and Casa Benjamin Group Homes** – the children have been locked down since March 11th. They need more activities of all sorts not to get bored and to continue to develop properly from all points of view. They are continuing their school classes online, which is very demanding, especially for the staff on duty who have to manage all the girls and boys for the whole day. We have just resumed our virtual classes after our Easter holiday and it feels that what we did before the Easter holiday was just like a “warm up”. Our children pray for you, and we ask that you remember each child and worker in your prayers.



*Two of the Casa Anna girls helping with baking the sweet bread for Easter. Girls enjoy to do their chores daily (including gardening), but they are really happy to be part of these special moments of preparing the meals for festive occasions.*

On April 10th, a military order was issued that covers all residential centers in the social assistance field. That meant that on that very day we had to provide two people to work in each home for two weeks. So now shifts take place and then people going home have to isolate for the next two weeks. We praise God for the grace our staff received, being far away from their families for such a long time, especially during the Easter celebration. We hope we'll have to take these long shifts until the emergency situation will end on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, or the latest when the children will go back to school.



*Boys' Group Home, 'Casa Benjamin'*

*Left – leisure time – reading, drawing and Monopoly activities the boys were part of during these long weeks of lockdown*



*Right – Leveling the garden, one of the practical*

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic all the prices have gone up, so our expenses are much higher. We need to buy more fruit and disinfectants for both homes, and at the same time we are helping many more poor families.

**Hospital** – we were forced to stop our visits to the abandoned babies, but we had the honor to be intermediaries for our partner Chimpex SA to fight COVID-19. Through them were donated two beds for the intensive care unit and 280 ventilation systems.

**After school programme** – we think of and pray for the children who are part of our project during the lockdown – sadly, this is all we can do under the circumstances.

**Families in need** – Many poor families are being blessed with food and clothing through our project, as we partner with the Food Bank in Bucharest and the County Council in Constanta. The needs are extremely great.

Financially we are in a very perilous situation, as donations have fallen dramatically since March. BUT we continue to trust God to provide and help us move on. Please, continue to pray with us and support our work!

PRR's future is in His Hand. We have great faith in His Word.  
*We can do all things through Christ, who strengthens us (Philippians 4:13)*

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