

Helping the disadvantaged children back to school

Twice a year RCHF offers free of charge school requisites to children in families where parents are unable to afford all that is required for their child/children to re enter in class at the start of the new term. We again thanks to kind donations were able to supply back to school kits including rucksacks to many a child in both Suceava and Botosani Counties, thus allowing these children to re enter the new educational term with pride and join with all other children in the learning process that is so important to every child, no matter the status of their family.



Timmie products via RCHF helping children to learn with ease

RCHF continues to promote the range of Timmie products in both Suceava and Botosani Counties. This is an ongoing educational project that provides children in kindergartens and first class of mainstream school with a complete package of early learning books and learning cards that are brilliantly designed and paid for by in sponsorship gained by Dutch artist and author Miriam Charmant. In this way RCHF doesn't just as mentioned above help the poorest child to re enter school when new term starts, but encourages all children in class to learn with ease by the most up to date methods in early learning via the Timmie package which is free of all charges to children in class.



Stop violence campaign



Working in a voluntary collaboration with Suceava Police Inspectorate for many years allows RCHF to promote good safe relationships between all children. We address many issues that affect children of all ages and recently held a seminar of the subject of violence that was a follow up to a seminar RCHF conducted on the subject of bullying amongst children a few months previous. Violence comes in many forms from verbal to physical aggression that can have a long lasting effect on the child concerned and we teach that there is simply no place for any form of violence within childhood as if allowed to continue unabated becomes a more serious problem in adulthood in later life. At a children's center in Suceava County we held this seminar and children of all ages were encouraged to make a anti violence poster, speak about the effects of violence as they saw them and the best efforts were given prizes by RCHF and all children received a small consolation treat, plus a full meal of meat rolls, fresh bread and salad.

Lifting families out of the darkness!



It's expensive, we all take it for granted and complain if there is a power cut for a short while, but in northern Romania there are hundreds of families who each night when it gets dark simply go to bed early as have no mains electricity. In Suceava County alone are over 130 families in the darkness each night! Some use a candle, but the dangers are well known as recently one such candle fell over when an old lady fell asleep and she was burnt to death in her small dwelling in the rural village as the dwelling collapsed upon her. Others use a petrol or diesel lamp, but both are unsafe to human health as give out fumes, yet many a child in all these families do their school homework in such conditions. Many live in hamlets of old dwellings outside the main village where is electricity lines, but they have never been extended to these dwellings sometimes only a few km away.

RCHF has in the past 2 years helped children in 5 families with 13 children in total who live in one such hamlet of dwellings just a stones through from Suceava City near Stroiesti village and none of the dwellings have electricity, thus when dark falls each night use candles or smelly tilly lamps if they can afford the petrol. In the last few weeks with a superb donation from UK friends we were able to bring each of these families out of the darkness they had endured each night in all the life. One man who is a grandfather in his late 70s told us that in all the life he never had an electric light and that just 1 bulb would be marvelous!! Well we did more than one bulb as these solar kits we purchased for these families and donated free of any charges contain 3 light bulbs a power storage pack and a solar panel. The solar panel charges the storage pack up even in ordinary daylight and this allows the families over 8 hours of electric lighting per night in 3 rooms! RCHF is now looking at helping another group of 30 families near the Ukraine border with Romania in Suceava County to bring them out of the darkness too and we will keep you updated on this in future newsletters. Here you can see just how we use your donations in projects that really help deprived communities to a better standard of living.



Many will feel the cold this winter again

These are apartment blocks in Stefanesti village in Botosani County that house whole families and were built in the communist times and are heated by wood burning stoves. The metal pipes rising up from the apartments act as chimneys to take smoke and fumes away, but many are old now and give out fumes from the old stoves that act as a cooker for heating food also. The problem is the cost of heating logs has risen far above what many a family can afford and even those with gas supply heating in towns and Cities face a winter of cold as simply cannot afford the high prices. RCHF offers help and support with winter heating bills where it can but simply has not the means to help all affected as would cost a huge amount. We help a small number of families like in Dorohoi town who are social families without means who we know and work with for many years as well as a monthly supply of food aid purchased with RCHF donations.



Helping the homeless

RCHF continues to help people who have no roof over their head at night. We provide hot drinks and food to those sleeping rough, plus encourage to go to street centers for the homeless, but sadly there are not enough places for all. Homelessness is a huge problem all over Europe today with far from enough being done by governments to address this problem. We help out of humanity, as today is so easy to loose a job, a house and be on the streets tomorrow. We single out those who are genuinely homeless and help them where we can. We also help with aid where we can to street people centers in Suceava and Botosani counties, as they too have not a huge amount of resources.

Diploma of Excellence awarded



In October 2018 Brian Douglas received a diploma of excellence for the support via RCHF of children at Ștefanesti high school, which was awarded at a special cultural event.

Road safety actions to help save human and animal life



RCHF continues to work alongside Suceava Police officers in a special project developed by Brian Douglas some 4 years ago that address the dangers faced by road users of fast moving vehicles when they come upon a slow moving horse and cart at night or in bad weather conditions. The users of horses and carts are the rural people who often have to use main roads to travel even across from one village to another or to town to do their daily tasks. RCHF thanks to this well designed project provides free highly visible reflector plates for horse and cart owners so they can be seen at night and when is poor visibility even in the daytime hours as in the case of foggy days. This allows a fast moving vehicle driver to see the horse and cart when coming upon in from behind at speed and gives the time required to take action to avoid hitting the horse and cart, thus is

a lifesaver project, which earned Brian the title of Great Briton in Romania via the British Embassy in 2014.



Nature is wonderful.

Each year on the 12-14th September the storks are seen flying around in circles above the villages as they train their young ones for the day ahead when they leave Romania to find warmer climates in the Arab Countries before returning next spring to northern Romanian again to breed.

We thank you for your support and look forward to bringing all the latest news including of Christmas aid deliveries at the year-end