



Hope for Each Abandoned Life  
Registered Charity No: 1117435  
www.healromania.org

## Trustees report Jan 2017

Silviu and Mihaela have had a very successful year establishing fantastic working relationships with orphanages and schools in Sector 1 in Bucharest. HEAL Romania now has a very good reputation among the staff working at various orphanages and we have been invited to collaborate with many of them to provide education and social and spiritual support for the children. These institutions are crowded and the staff do not have the time or resources to give the children the attention that they need. That is where Silviu and Mihaela are invaluable.

### **Bucharest Noi Foundation**

HEAL Romania has been in partnership with Bucharest Noi Foundation for a year now. Here there are children with various behavioural difficulties. Nine children here have been identified by the staff as needing additional support. These children have experienced deep emotional trauma in their past and therefore require a very personal approach to education. Mihaela and Cristi (one of our educators) visit twice a week to provide tuition, help with homework and provide pastoral care to help the children to remain in mainstream education.



At the end of the school year this year, we received feedback from the teachers and all of the children in our after school programme have made significant progress since we have been helping them.





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## Metropolis Foundation

The children that live in this orphanage have been in an institution their whole lives and have no notion of what it is to be part of a family and what a family home is like. Silviu and Mihaela bring these children to their home on a rota basis to show them how to be part of a family. Mihaela teaches them how to cook and they are eager to try to cook diverse meals that they have seen on the internet or on TV. It is a relaxing and a fun time for the kids. Silviu and Mihaela try to mix this type of relaxing activity with the time that they spend with Ioan (an educator) doing their homework.



In the summer Silviu and Mihaela invited some of the children from Metropolis and some local children to a craft workshop at their home. It was a chance to socialise with other children outside of the orphanage and work together on a project. The children made candles together. They learned to mix candle wax with different fragrances and colours to create a candle of their own. They then decorated them with seashells. The children loved learning how to do this and were very impressed with the results. They felt proud of their achievement and really enjoyed making new friends. The workshop was such a success there are plans to do more of this in the future.



Silviu and Mihaela have also managed to persuade some volunteers to help them with the after-school education programme at the foundation. A married couple have become very involved with the education program and are looking to adopt one of the children from the orphanage later this year.



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### **Boys orphanage**

Silviu and Mihaela have a little bit of time in their week to visit an orphanage for boys. Any children that have been identified by the staff as being particularly helpful or kind, or who have worked really hard at school are allowed to go out for a treat with Silviu and Mihaela. They take them to the park, the zoo or out for a meal at a restaurant. Children from Metropolis Foundation are also invited to go on these trips out to give the children the opportunity to socialise together.



### **Adults with learning difficulties**

Close to Silviu and Mihaela's home is another orphanage for boys with severe physical disabilities, learning disabilities and mental health issues. We do not have an agreed contract to work here but Silviu and Mihaela visit regularly bringing food and occasional treats.

### **St Maria Orphanage**

Unexpectedly in the summer, the government sold the building to a private contractor. Within days, all of the girls had been moved to other orphanages in Bucharest and the building was closed. This came as a huge shock to us as we had been working with these children for over a year.

The trustees are extremely grateful to all of our regular sponsors who continue to give every month for our work. Also we would like to say a huge thank you to everyone that supports our fundraising events and everyone that fundraises on our behalf. We could not offer so much help to others without you.

God bless

Leanda, Megan and Barbara