

Happy Thanksgiving!

In the US, during the fall, we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is a great tradition which dates back to our first settlers. At this time, we all gather with friends and family to share a delicious meal and express our thanks for all of our blessings: family, friends, good health, and anything for which we are especially thankful for this year. In the spirit of this thanksgiving season, we are so thankful for our donors.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Thanks to the generosity of the members of Good Shephard we were able to replace our old fallen wall with a brand new, sturdier wall which should last many years. This wall encloses our courtyard in Romania which protects our privacy from our neighbors.

The Children of St. Francis School

We are so grateful for the children of St. Francis School in West Des Moines, Iowa and their teacher Ms. Holly, who is a 7th grade teacher at the school. She presented Casa Mea on Mission Day to the school and, as a result, the children raised a handsome sum of money for Casa Mea. The children at the school are also becoming pen pals with our children at Casa Mea.



Before: Fallen Brick Wall



After: Our new wall on a brick foundation

A German Couple

A German woman, Christina who is a friend of our administrator, Felicia, was married. She and her partner asked the guests to make a donation to Casa Mea instead of giving them wedding presents. Over the summer, Christina's guests' donations provided much needed funds to Casa Mea. She and her spouse have earmarked their gift to Casa Mea for heat at Casa Mea this winter. Since the heat is expensive in Romania's cold winter, we are so grateful that all at Casa Mea will be toasty warm this winter.

Fall in Romania

Romanians may not celebrate the fall Thanksgiving tradition, but they celebrate the beautiful fall. And our family is no different. To celebrate the beautiful fall day, they went up to the mountains and enjoyed a beautiful day outside.

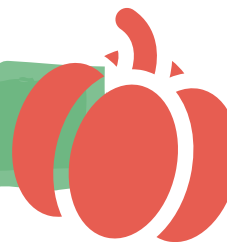


Volunteer, Raul, friend Mariuca, Ana, Livia, Cristina, Simona, Robi at the lake in Poiana



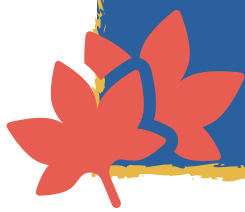
Cristina, Felicia (administrator) Livia & Raul resting after hiking in the mountains

Halloween, a New Fall Tradition



In Romania, celebrating Halloween has now become a favorite. Thanks to our staff who continue this tradition year after year! Whoever gets tired of Halloween or the Day of the Dead?

Robi, Mirela (staff), Simona, Stelian, (back row)
Cristina, Livia, Raul & Ana (front row)



The Kids

We are so thankful for our beautiful children and the privilege we have of caring for them. We hope we are exposing them to a better life than they would have had in an orphanage.

Raul celebrated his 14th birthday in October at Casa Mea. Everyone, including all the staff, got together to make his birthday a special experience, as they do for every child on their birthday.



Ana with her "partner"



Raul, 14 years old



All the staff, volunteers and kids celebrating Raul's birthday

Felicia

Mostly we are so grateful for Felicia who makes sure all runs smoothly at Casa Mea. She ensures all the children are properly dressed, have excellent manners, do well in school, and participate in activities outside of school that pique their interests. We couldn't survive without Felicia.



Felicia

Felicia took Simona to the symphony because Simona had never been to a symphony before and Simona loves music.



Simona at the symphony

Felicia also help Vlad move out on his own. With her help, he found an apartment he could afford and also helped him find a job! Vlad is now “independent, “ but we hope he will always consider Casa Mea his home.



Vlad and Felicia in front of his apartment building in Brasov



Vlad with his boss Jon at Jon's restaurant Anuma in Brasov

We are Thankful!

We are so grateful to all of our donors, whether they volunteer their time or their financial resources, who enrich our lives every single day. Thank you! Multumesc foarte mult!

On a Sad Note

We say goodbye to a loving mother, Esther Clark, who never forgot the children on the holidays. Every holiday, she would send the children US dollars and the candy of the season. They all looked forward to the money and of course the candy. We will all miss her presence in our lives.

If you shop for holiday gifts on Amazon, please go to smile.amazon.com and designate Casa Mea as your charity. Casa Mea will then receive a donation from Amazon Smile based on a percentage of your cost.

To send your financial gift to Casa Mea...

- By Check: Payable to Casa Mea at 6705 Shadow Crest Drive, Plano, TX 75093
- By Credit Card: Donate online by visiting www.casamea.org and click “Make a Donaton”
- Other Donations: Contact Jan at 612-227-3239 or email jan@casamea.org to arrange for a monthly atomatic bank withdrawal, donation of appreciated stock, or other type of financial donation. All contributions to Casa Mea are tax-deductible. Thank you!