

# CASA MEA NEWS

Spring 2012



Vlad & Ana Maria

Cristina & Steli

Mihaela & Bibi

Will spring ever arrive?!



## winter 2012!

No matter how cold and snowy it is outside, children always seem to have fun in the snow. And Casa Mea's children are no different! But what started out as a mild winter in Romania ended up being one of the worst on record. Eastern Europe, including Romania, suffered from extremely cold temperatures and record snow falls. Many of the roads were impassable for days due to the snow. Schools were closed for weeks because of the children's illnesses.

The weather may have played a role in these illnesses which spread like wildfire among the children. Casa Mea's children were stuck in the house for over a week because they were sick. Vlad was even in the hospital for an entire week! Hopefully, the worst of the terrible winter is over and spring is on the way!

Despite the horrible winter, Casa Mea's children won another local contest! They have now won the Pie Festival and the Pancake Festival! At Prejmer's Annual Pancake Festival, the children's performance and the staff's pancakes took awards! The



pancakes topped with the American flag are traditional American pancakes. All the children participated as did the staff. Our hats off to the children and the staff once again!



## Spring's new beginnings



Just as the Romanian decorated eggs are symbols of new beginnings and hope, this spring Casa Mea is creating many new beginnings.

### **Casa Mea's school**

This spring, Casa Mea plans to begin converting our unfinished attic into a school which will open next September. Originally, Casa Mea had no intention of opening a school for our children. Now, however, it has come to our attention that several of our children have special needs. The lack of good nutrition, stimulation, and love they suffered early in life has left some of them with needs our local school system cannot address.

It is our hope that by giving them special attention in a smaller classroom with special education teachers and specialists such as speech, occupational, and physical therapists, they will thrive and have a much better chance of becoming productive members of society when they are adults.

We also plan to offer at a minimal tuition an English immersion school for those children in our community and beyond who want such an education. In the evenings,



Our unfinished attic will be Casa Mea's new school

when the classrooms are empty of children, we will offer (again for a small tuition) English classes for adults. Our plan is to use the tuition from the school to create a self sustaining school.

Obviously, renovating the attic will require more funds than our current budget allows. To cover these renovating expenses, we are actively seeking a volunteer development manager to advise us and work with us on reaching more donors. After the renovations are complete, we plan to solicit the volunteer specialists needed to operate the school.

With your continuing support, Casa Mea knows our dream of a school in Romania will become a reality.

## **Mi Casita in Guatemala**

Casa Mea is planning on opening a new home for the orphaned and abandoned children of Guatemala in the fall of 2013. The home will be called Mi Casita, meaning "my home" in Spanish. This summer we will travel to Guatemala to explore purchasing a house suitable for our new home.

Currently, Guatemala has a ban on international adoptions similar to that in Romania. According to Inspire Magazine, one child is abandoned in Guatemala every 4 days and three quarters of these abandoned children are newborn babies. UNICEF reports that half the population lives in poverty with 17% living in extreme poverty.

Casa Mea has decided the need in Guatemala is great and wants to alleviate some of the devastating effects these children suffer as a result of not living in a loving home environment.

With your continuing support, Casa Mea knows our dream of a home for unwanted children in Guatemala will become a reality.



Guatemalan infant



## facebook

In order to reach many more potential supporters, Casa Mea is now exploring entering the area of social media. Since January, Casa Mea has been on face book. Please visit our page at <http://www.facebook.com/CasaMeaRomania>.

We invite you to bring awareness of Casa Mea to your friends and contacts by liking this page. Liking our page will increase our exposure! Soon we hope to be on other social media sites. A young man from a local university has volunteered to help us with this goal. Casa Mea is confident it will see wonderful results from its entry into the social media domain!



### Wall

- Info
- Photos

### About

Casa Mea (Romanian for "my home") is a non-profit, philanthropic organizati...

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## Casa Mea



Loving Homes for Orphaned and Abandoned Children · Plano, Texas



### Wall

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### Casa Mea

Casa Mea is seeking a volunteer Social Media Manager and/or a Webmaster. If you are interested and have the time, we at Casa Mea would greatly appreciate it!

Like · Comment · February 13 at 7:46am · 



### Casa Mea

Please take a look at these beautiful pictures of Romania; the scenery and the children!



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Bienvenue sur le site Internet de Partir Autrement, la série télévisée qui vous propose d'explorer la planète en empruntant les chemins du tourisme durable accompagné de l'animateur Bruno Blanchet.

## 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: You may donate on-line by clicking on this PayPal button or visit our website at [www.casamea.org](http://www.casamea.org) and click on "Make a Donation"



Other financial donations: Contact Melanie Clark at [melanie@casamea.org](mailto:melanie@casamea.org) or at 972.306.6705 to arrange for a monthly automatic bank withdrawal, donation of appreciated stock, or other type of financial donation

If you have specific questions regarding how you can help, please call us at 972.306.6705 or email us at [jan@casamea.org](mailto:jan@casamea.org).

All contributions to Casa Mea are tax-deductible.

Thank You!

