

## The Children of Casa Mea Welcome Spring



Ana and Cristina enjoy sledding in the mountains



Winter may have been mild by Romanian standards, but that didn't make it any less fun. From a trip to the mountains to ice skating right here in Brasov, the winter was filled with new adventures and old favorites.



Livia enjoys a warm Spring day



Robert and Stelian enjoy a snow day

The children are eager to welcome Spring and all of the excitement that it contains: rollerblading trips through Prejmer, a chance for Vlad to try out his new skateboard (a generous Christmas gift!), plenty of time on the trampoline, football at the park, and birthdays for both Ana Maria, who turns eleven on March 20, and Cristina, who will be ten April 8.



Vlad takes a break with his new skateboard

# Good Going Mihaela!

Mihaela, who is 8 years old, is a very bright little girl with a personality to match. Considering she lived on the streets with her mother for two years, and in an orphanage for two more, she has come a long way. Because she is so bright, she had the opportunity to go to a special English school in Bucharest.



This school's hours are from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., unlike the routine 4 hours per day for typical Romanian students. Classes are in English and there are many enrichment courses in the afternoons. Mihaela has chosen ballet as her enrichment course. We are so fortunate that she can live with a single woman teacher from the school who is a dear, sweet person. Although Mihaela has moments of homesickness and our other children miss her terribly, we could not deny her this opportunity. Fortunately, we all stay in touch and she visits us often.

We are so glad that Mihaela has this chance. Look for outstanding accomplishments from her in the future!

# Good Going Volunteers!

A big, huge thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and donors.  
We could not survive without you!

## Jenni

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A special thanks to Jenni, who included a plea for donations to Casa Mea in her Christmas newsletter! Jenni said:

“Through the work ... of Casa Mea and Mi Casita, we see first-hand what our donations are doing for the children who are as deserving as any of our own but sadly do not have parents of their own to provide for them. ... [I]t is wonderful to see a pair of shoes or a T-shirt our child has outgrown in a picture that comes in the newsletters....”

# Esther and our British Friends

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The children of Casa Mea receive a special delivery for Christmas from the UK

Esther never forgets a holiday and always sends each child a card with money in it, plus some sweets. Nor do our British friends from Emmanuel Baptist Church in England ever forget a holiday or a birthday; sending gifts, money, and cards. Additionally, a school in England raised funds for Casa Mea and a woman knit beautiful sweaters. It is these people who make life special for the children. The children know they are not only a part of our immediate Casa Mea family, but also a part of a larger extended family who cares for them.



The children show off their cards and gifts from the US

## Our Romanian Friends

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The children of Casa Mea and many friends prepare for a Cable Car ride in the mountains

Where would we be without our terrific Romanian friends who donate gifts, sweets, fruits, and added experiences for our children? There are too many to name all of them, but a special thanks to the volunteers who not only took the children on a trip to the mountains for a sledding adventure this winter but also provided a complimentary dinner for all!

## ...and More Volunteers in Guatemala

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A volunteer cares for an abandoned baby in Guatemala

We were so fortunate to have two caring volunteers work with the cleft lip and palate babies this past winter in Guatemala. Although we have had many setbacks this past year in starting up our home, Mi Casita, in Guatemala, we remain committed and encouraged to push forward to provide these abandoned infants a home!



**We could not do any of this without your help, and we so look forward to your continued support of Casa Mea and Mi Casita.**

**THANK YOU!**

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 clicking [HERE](#) or visit [www.casamea.org](http://www.casamea.org) and click on "Make a Donation"
- Other Donations: Contact Jan at 612-227-3239 or email [jan@casamea.org](mailto:jan@casamea.org) to arrange for a monthly automatic bank withdrawal, donation of appreciated stock, or other type of financial donation.

All contributions to Casa Mea are tax-deductible. Thank you!