

Ionut Bechet is 24 years old. He and his partner have both grown up in orphanages and do not have any support and help from anybody. They are living in a flat, which somebody allowed them to borrow. They have a baby girl of 4 months. The condition of the flat was very bad before the baby was born and in order to be able to keep the child they had to improve the living conditions and also to connect the flat to electricity and water.



Ionut works very hard in the vegetable market but he is very badly paid and couldn't afford to pay the big sum of money to reconnect the flat to the electricity and also to improve the living conditions. With the help of RoAF in south Wales and also some money from AN, we managed to reconnect the flat to the electricity. Some of our staff worked there and repaired the electricity and water supply, also the drain and some other work. We replaced the entrance door, donated some carpet, clothes, food, powder milk for baby, bedding, push chair, cot, money for some medicine and for fittings, etc. The couple are very happy that they could keep the child and look after her; not having to put her into an orphanage, as their own parents had done with them. Our support for this family is vital.

Georgeta Jitareanu is a lady of 35 years old. Her husband left her about 3 years ago. She has 4 children; three of them are going to school. She doesn't have a job, the only income is the children allocation. She lived in a social house that belonged to the town hall, near some gypsy families. Her house burned with all things of the family and they couldn't live there any more. The town hall social department found them a small flat to put the family in but the flat was devastated, very, very bad condition. The lady applied to us for help and we considered we should help this family. We donated them a bed, bedding, duvets, carpets, clothes, food, furniture, sink, etc. and helped the family to be able to leave there normally.



The help that we can give to these families and many others like them is due to the support that is channelled through RoAF - **Thank you!**

The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociatia Neemia

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Life in the EU, in 2008, in Romania

Beni Mirauta, general manager of Asociatia Neemia in Dorohoi, has supplied some details of some of the situations that the team faces on a daily basis.

During this year I started to do more visits to the families that we assist. This has helped me a lot in seeing how the families are living and to have a complete picture about them. I have taken the opportunity to write some examples about some families that we helped, the problems that they are living with and how we (you and us) have been able to help them:

Vasile Ivanescu An old couple leaving in Dorohoi. Wife is partly paralysed, she hardly can walk, and her husband is also ill having Parkinson's. They are getting a very small pension, which is not enough to get food for that month. They spend most of their pension buying medicine necessary for both of them. Because of the floods we had last year, and because their house is in an area where is this risk of getting flooded, their house was very bad affected and was fallen down, so they moved in the end part of the house where they use to have chickens, without electricity and in very bad conditions, being also very cold in the winter.

Together with the help of the Town Hall and local firms we made them another house nearby. The costs of our contribution towards the building was about 600 GBP; we also donated two beds, some bedding, clothes, furniture, crockery, food, and still sometimes money for medicine. Their life changed very much since then, they are very happy living in the new house.



The Romanian Aid Foundation and Asociatia Neemia

Working with Romanian people to bring help to the needy,

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Vasilica Cozmiuc is a 21-year-old girl. She has a physical handicap, she can walk only if she is helped, she didn't grow up normally and she looks like a girl of 11 years old. She lives with her parents in a old house in very bad conditions. The only income of the family is a pension of 24 GBP that she receives from the state for her handicap; this may help them to buy food just for a few days. She needs all the time adult Pampers and care, she can't look after herself.



We have got to know her through visiting other families from the same village. She needed a wheelchair, some adult Pampers that she can't afford from their money. We also helped them with some bedding, duvets, food, soap. All the family were so happy, the wheelchair made her life better as she can now go outside easier and also for her mother it is easier to take her out. The things that we donated to them helped them very much and improved their life.

Elena Cazaciuc is 62 years old. She lives in a village near Dorohoi, in a house that has almost fallen down. Her husband died many years ago and she has a handicapped son who is 38 years old. She doesn't have any income at all. She has to look after her son all the time. Their situation is horrible, as they do not have any help from anywhere, her work during all day is to go in the forest to pick up and carry with her arms wood sticks to keep the fire going to warm to room where her son is staying. Their food is generally what we can donate to them (generally tinned of beans) or cornflower boiled (food called here mamaliga). Inside of their house is worse than in an animal shed.



We help this family with food, clothes, bedding and soap. We paid to replace the two doors of this house as the doors were in very bad condition making the house very cold. Also with the help of RoAF in south Wales we connected the house with electricity this year, as they didn't have electricity till now.

Mariana Istrati A family from Dorohoi with 5 children. There is no income in this family, three of the children are going to school, the mother wants that the children to attend the school even if they are very poor. For that, they needed clothes, shoes, food, electricity at the house, etc. They are living in a very poor house left from her grand mother, where all the family are crowded in one room and a small hall.



We couldn't repair their house or make another one but we helped them with clothes for children, food, stationary, sometimes, paid the electricity bill, pushchair for the baby child in the family, some powder milk for the baby, etc. This family is dependent of our help.

Elena Balan is a lady of 71 years old. She lives in Dorohoi, she has a very small pension per month that would be enough to buy food for five days, just that. She is a widow and she is very ill, she looks after her grandson who is 8 years old, because his mother died from cancer and his father does not have any job here and he is going very often to get jobs in different parts of the country. The situation is really difficult, as the old lady needs medicine very often; they need food and clothes for the child.

We helped them with some furniture, some stationary for the child, some money for the medicine, food, clothes for the family, bedding, blankets, soap, etc. Our support for this family is vital; they wouldn't cope without our help.

Mihaela Teliban is a lady of 38 years old. Her husband died 5 years ago. She has 9 children, the oldest is 18 years old and the youngest is 7 years old. They are living in a very poor house in a village near Dorohoi. Their only income that they are getting is the allocation for the children. Nobody works in this family. They have just a few chickens and a goat. One of her children is deaf and can't speak. It is very difficult situation in this family as the mother tries hard to keep the children in school.



We helped this family with: clothes, a computer for the children which is a very big help for school lessons, some carpets, food, bedding, stationary, money for wood and medicine. This family needs a constant help from us, which we try to offer as much as we can. Our support for this family is also vital.