



Into The Light

Exciting news!

Welcome to our latest edition of "Into the Light" We do hope you find it interesting and that you are blessed by the news and work stories just as much as the children and young people in Romania are, all this is made possible by your generosity and God's grace.

Let's begin by sharing some very exciting news!

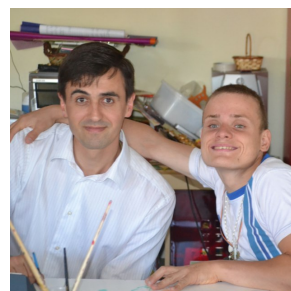
Our sister charity in Romania "Asociatia Lumina" has won a significant grant from a multi-national corporate foundation and over the next three years will be extending its hospice and palliative care services, delivered currently through Hospice Casa Albert, to include a dedicated paediatric inpatient and respite care unit based in the City of Bacau.

This project will not only provide for the children of Bacau County but will extend its reach to the children of the three surrounding counties– Neamt, Vaslui and Vrancea. This project has attracted funding as the first dedicated inpatient palliative care unit for children in Romania. This development will complement the already established work of the Hospice Casa Albert community team of health and social care professionals who will continue to serve more than 100 families, adults and children in their homes in the region of Bacau. It will also allow them to offer a choice to the families whose children are terminally sick as to whether their loved one dies at home or in a specialist palliative care inpatient unit.

Since 2007 when Hospice Casa Albert was first launched as a community project, the laws and legislation have not allowed application for local government funding to support the development of inpatient care. However in Prague last year Romania was one of a number of countries that signed up to developing hospice and palliative care and money from the Romanian house of insurance has now become available. This now allows for applications for funding to run a unit within the City limits giving Asociatia Lumina confidence in sustainable funding going forward to support the operational costs of inpatient services. This coupled with sponsorship and other grants will enable the team to give the best possible care available to children and their families who so desperately need it.

As Hospice Casa Albert moves forward with this exciting new development we should remember that this would not have been possible without the initial and ongoing support of CitD and our generous supporters. Please pray for me and the trustees of both CitD and Asociatia Lumina for wisdom and discernment and further provision to continue this important work that I believe God started seventeen years ago.

*With blessings and thanks
Steve Cooper CEO/Founder.*





**Irina enjoying Christmas
2014**

Casa Lumina-the family

Irina is one of our youngsters living at Casa Lumina. She is known for being very private and keeping herself to herself. She has never seemed to have any real friends amongst the others. Even when it comes to the staff members she can be reserved and it is really rare that she gets involved in organised activities.

In December 2014 Irina had surgery and some of our youngsters began to notice that she was missing. They started to ask questions about where she was and how she was feeling. The most interesting thing for us to watch was the reaction of the other young people when she came back home from the hospital.

Nicoleta, Alina and Maria took it upon themselves to stay close to her in this difficult time. They tried comforting her and offered to help the staff with her care. They began acting like big sisters towards "little Irina". After the surgery Irina was put on a special diet much like Maria, who suffers from diabetes. Maria started to look after her and encourage Irina to follow her new diet. Now Maria is taking Irina by the hand and guiding her to the table to have their snacks and meals together. Irina, who used not to have friends now has someone who is looking after her and who is trying to meet her needs. For the staff at Casa Lumina this is a proof that after so many years relationships between the youngsters are much stronger than we thought. When we opened Casa Lumina we never imagined that our young people would be capable of developing such empathy and love for each other and we are thrilled that they are thinking of themselves as a family.

*Mariana Cretu
Director Casa Lumina*

Summer mission 2016

We know it seems like a long way off but before you know it, it will be time to plan your summer activities for 2016. Why not write a summer mission trip to Romania with CitD into your plan?

Our week long mission trips offer a great opportunity for volunteers to experience working hands on with the people we serve through our diverse and exciting projects.

We can accommodate groups from as small as 7 people up to 16 people. And we will tailor a week to

fit the needs of your group.

An average trip will cost £750 Per Person and this includes all flights, accommodation, meals, transport within Romania and also the cost of funding a practical, hands on project. Your week will be facilitated in full by Steve Cooper (CEO) and Beth Johnson (Coordinator of Volunteers) so you won't need to worry about anything!

If you are interested in bringing a group to Romania please don't miss out!

Contact us today for more info - bethjohnson@cryinthedark.org



Schools and Youth Work

So, I'm coming up to the end of my first year working for CitD and although it hasn't always been as easy as I anticipated, it has been a lot of fun!

The most promising link I have made this year is with a secondary school in Colchester, The Gilberd. We have run lessons on injustice with all the year 9's and will be teaching the year 10's in June. Despite that, it has been hugely enjoyable and speaking to the students about our work which at times brought some of them to tears, (though I'm not sure I should admit that!) has been a real privilege. I'm praying God will continue to open doors for CitD.

*Natalie Andrew
Schools & Youth Coordinator*



Summer Holiday

This summer for the **first time ever** we will be taking 15 of our children and young people from the Hospice Casa Albert program on **holiday to the beach**. To do this we need your help though!

We believe it will cost us approximately £150 per person for travel, accommodation, food and activities.

We would love to have each of the children sponsored in full and give them the holiday of lifetime!



None of the children on the list for our Summer Beach Holiday have **ever been** to the seaside before and we want them to experience it **in full**.

If you could **sponsor the trip** for one of the children or part fund it please send a cheque payable too "Cry in the Dark" to;

Summer Holiday
2 Rose Allen Ave
Colchester
Essex
CO2 8WL

Or to pay via BACs please email bethjohnson@cryinthedark.org for details.

We will send you details of the child you have helped send on holiday and photos of their trip! **Thank you.**

Did you know?

If you are setting up a **fundraising page** to raise money for Cry in the Dark, '**Virgin Money Giving**' is a much better way to raise your funds!

With '**Virgin Money Giving**' we receive **100% of all gift aid** and don't pay a monthly subscription!

'Just Giving' **take a %** of our gift aid and we pay a monthly subscription to be on their site!

From now on we ask that you please use '**Virgin Money Giving**' so that more of what you have given comes to the work of Cry in the Dark.

Thank you.



Chairmans Corner

Dear Friends and Supporters,

On behalf of the trustees can I thank you for your continued prayer and support for CiTD. It never fails to amaze me how much we have been able to initiate, sustain and develop in Romania during the last 17 years through your help and God's Grace. And as you have read in this newsletter, that development is continuing in new and exciting ways in 2015 through the receipt of substantial awards from European funders for new projects to build and operate a paediatric hospice in the city of Bacau and to educate Romanian social workers in palliative care.

Each of these bids has been led by Miheala Dumitrache, the Director of Asociata Lumina and overseen by Steve Cooper as President of that charity. As such they represent an important maturing of our partnership with Asociata Lumina which we greatly value and will continue to find ways to encourage and support them without in any way weakening Cry in the Dark's primary commitment to the continuing work of Casa Lumina and Casa Albert.

We will of course keep you posted on all developments.

Grace and peace

Tim Bryan
Chairman



Child Sponsorship

Become a Prieten Sponsor and build a **friendship** with one of our children or young adults on the Hospice Casa Albert programme!

Help pay towards the cost of the **care** of a named patient and at the same time build a relationship.

You can **write to your Prieten** (the Romanian word for friend) and send gifts. You will also receive **2 reports** annually with news of your Prieten, for example, about any treatment they are receiving and how they are responding etc.

To become a Prieten Sponsor (from £15 a month) please email

bethjohnson@cryinthedark.org to get a form and to discuss which child/young adult you would like to sponsor.

We look forward to helping you start a **new friendship** with someone who really needs the **hope** that having a friend brings!

As a "Prieten" you will help pay towards

• Home visits by our team

(Each trip costing approx. £13.75 for medication, incontinence pads, dressings, fuel to get to the patient and the salary for our nurse and doctor)

• The cost of a day's respite at Hospice Casa Albert £10.50 per patient

(Please note that not all the patients can attend the respite

care at Hospice Casa Albert)



Please get in touch today to find out more

Could you help CitD save money?

If you are currently reading a paper copy of this newsletter do you think you could start receiving it via email?

For every newsletter we post it costs us approximately £0.80p and when we are sending 1000's that adds up pretty quickly! So if you could help us save we would be really grateful.

To swap to the E-Newsletter please email us on info@cryinthedark.org

We really appreciate it.

Thank you

I can help Cry in the Dark now...

I would like to make a one-off donation:

I enclose a donation for £_____ (please make cheques payable to 'Cry in the Dark')

I would like to become a 'Cry Partner' by giving a regular gift:

Standing Order instructions to your Bank

Please pay this sum to Cry in the Dark, Royal Bank of Scotland plc,

59 Streatham High Road SW16 1PN Sort code: 160093 Account no. 10025884

☐ £5 ☐ £10 ☐ £15 ☐ £20 ☐ £25 Other amount _____ monthly.

Starting on (date) ____ and thereafter until further notice.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Please debit my/our account accordingly:

Account name: _____

Sort code: _____ Account no: _____

Name and address of your Bank/Building Society: _____

Gift Aid: If you are a UK tax payer, your gift could be worth an extra 25%.

I confirm that I am a UK tax payer and wish Cry in the Dark to treat all donations I make from now on as Gift Aid donations. I pay income tax and/or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax amount Cry in the Dark reclaims on my donations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

My Name and contact details

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

E-mail: _____ Tel no: _____

I would like to know more about...

☐ Fundraising ☐ Volunteering ☐ Having CitD give a talk
☐ CitD's News ☐ Giving to CitD in my will

Cry in the dark

2 Rose Allen Avenue, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8WL E-mail: info@cryinthedark.org

www.cryinthedark.org

Registered charity 1071517