

Dear Supporters!

Every gift, big or small, is of great importance and those of you who support the work are incredibly important! Just before school ends every summer, large gifts come from the schools in Bankeryd and Jönköping, Sweden. With great ingenuity and involvement, the pupils raise funds to support FCE's work among those in need in Romania. At both the schools there are always students and teachers who have visited Marghita and who can inspire the others.

After a rather cold beginning to the summer, the summer has become very hot. At the gatherings held in the Club and in the chapel at Ciutelec, the inspiration in the songs is not less because there is sweat running down your body. Young and old love these times of fellowship!

Summer camps

Children and young people from all of FCE's projects get the opportunity to go on a summer camp at FCE's camp venue in the village of Chislaz. Thank you to all of you who have made this financially possible! A second hand store in Vänersborg, Sweden, run by the Pentecostal church and Eriks, donated money to enable 50 children to have an unforgettable camp week! The children who come from poor circumstances especially appreciate these camps very much! At home it is necessary for them to help work making sure there is food on the table for the family very often they go to bed both dirty and hungry. For these children the camp with baths, fun activities, care, food and security is like heaven. Thank you also to all you Romanian volunteers who help on these camps!



Happy children on summer camp

Courses

With support from the EU, the Romanian state offers courses on different subjects and provide those attending with knowledge and qualifications. These courses are now available in Marghita and have been offered to the young people in FCE's projects. The courses are held in the afternoons so it is possible for them to go to work as normal in the mornings. FCE's Day Centre is a suitable location to hold the courses in.



Csaba and Zoli learning flower arranging



Family home father

From the 60 employees in FCE, there are six that have chosen to get married these last 6 months. Some weddings have already taken place and some remain. Ten of the employees celebrate their birthday in August and Costi, who turns 50, is one of them. He is one of the four family home fathers. That means that he, together with his wife, lives with and takes care of 5-7 children. "It is a 24-7 job with great responsibility," Costi says.

For Costi, who had worked abroad in construction, it was a big change when he and Carmen accepted the offer to become family home parents in 2009. They were given time to think about it, but didn't need it. She had worked at Casa Alba, which would close when all of the were placed in families. Carmen often took children home after her shift and it was decided that five girls would move into the newly opened family home 'Casa cu Flori' together with Costi, Carmen and their three children.

Since then, another girl has come and also a little boy, who will turn four this year. The boy was five months old when he came and it is the family's great joy to see him grow and develop. Costi tells us that as a parent in a family home you invest a lot in bringing up the children, to give them a chance for the future. "It is important with school and learning the times tables but there is so much more to it", he says. He carries both worries and hopes. "We give them what we can and try to show them the right way, but they are the ones making their choices in life."



Costi is getting the new living room ready at Casa cu Flori

There are twelve people living at Casa cu Flori and this summer Costi is working on getting a bigger living room ready. Swedish construction teams extended the house this Spring and now it is Costi's job to finish it. The family home parents are worthy of all admiration and encouragement!

Natalia's story



Natalia and Aniko

"Visiting FCE's family homes is always fun! One Saturday evening I visited Poiana Verde (the green meadow), the family home that moved from the village of Poiana to the newly purpose-built house on Brândușa street in Marghita. When I arrived, the house was spotlessly clean after the day's housecleaning. Roni was cutting potatoes to make french fries and Alex was helping her while the younger children were playing in the living room.

I sat at the large kitchen table with the family home mother, Aniko, and Natalia, who is turning fourteen this year. She is the oldest child in the family and Aniko says that she takes that role very seriously. She helps the other children choose their clothes when they are going somewhere, makes sure that their clothes are clean and ironed and she is even the family stylist. Almost everyone allows her to fix their hair. Her dream is to become a hairdresser.

Even as a two year old, Natalia wanted to help feed the smaller children at Casa Albă. Yes, Casa Albă was her first home and where she came as a baby after being abandoned on the pediatric ward at the hospital. Aniko was employed by FCE to

work on this hospital ward and then later at Casa Albă. She loved Natalia back then and took her home many times when she was off duty.

In 2008, transit homes began turning into family homes. The places for young people, who were ready to move out, were replaced by younger children. Many of them were children from Casa Albă, the home that would close in 2009. Aniko and her husband Rafael began working as family home parents in Poiana and Natalia and her one year younger cousin, Roni, moved into the home to everyone's delight!

Natalia is beginning the seventh grade but finds school quite difficult. Aniko is a trained specialist teacher and helps the children with any homework they have. Natalia says that they are three girls from the family in the same class, that her favourite subjects are music, drawing and history and that she listens to music a lot in her free time. She would like to learn to play the piano and bass. At home, she enjoys cooking, cleaning and taking care of the younger children. She is praised by the parents.

The Poiana Verde family is both musical and sporty! They enjoy excursions, are very involved in the church in Popești and they are never absent from the Club!

While I was there, Alex came with his albums and wanted to talk about memories from Casa Albă. Natalia remembers that Lars came there and sat in the rocking chair while the children clung to him. Alex, Natalia and the others think it's really fun to meet the children that they lived together with at Casa Albă and this summer they visited the camp for those foster children. Several of those who have been adopted have come back and visited us this summer. All these children are real friends and will stay in touch in the future.

The most important part of Casa Albă was to provide the children with a family and a secure place until each of them received his/her own family. When I sat with Natalia and her family and we remembered together the many other children who had received a chance from Casa Albă, I felt a great joy and gratitude for what has come true!"

Barbro Gustavsson

**In November we are celebrating 25 years
since the first FCE volunteer aid team went
from Sweden to Marghita, Romania.
Welcome to Linköping, Sweden on 7th November 2015
to join us for a day of remembering and looking forward!**

More details to follow on the website www.fce.ro

**Please check our website:
www.fce.ro**

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**Warm greetings
from FCE**

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

Jesus, Matt 25:40

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