



**SCOTTISH AID TO EASTERN EUROPE**  
(A Christian Development Project)

Dear Friend

The year 2021 has been another challenging year. As the coronavirus pandemic claimed almost six million lives worldwide, we have seen the virus adapt and spread. Many people have lost their employment and visits to family and friends have been curtailed. Travel is still restricted for many.

We were unable to visit Romania for the second year, but we kept in close contact with our co-workers and we still managed to deliver the aid. I hope you find our report interesting and challenging.

**What did we do this year?**

Our team collected aid which was then sorted and packed in the usual way. We worked in two separate teams to help social distancing. Unfortunately we were unable to give any presentations of our work.

Our aid was delivered in August to the delight of our co-workers at Emanuel Hospice, Oradea and others.

**What did we donate to the Hospice?**

We gave the hospice incontinence pads, nightwear, knitted blankets, clothing, walking aids, toiletries, prams, arts and craft items and toys. These items are in continual demand.

Home visits to patients are still limited and staff must wear protective clothing when visiting.

The virus is deadly and continues to claim many lives. Romania has seen almost 60,000 COVID-related deaths in the country since the pandemic began.

As well as managing the health and safety of her staff, Marinela must ensure the health and safety of patients who come into contact with them.

Patients can be vulnerable when their resistance is low as a result of illness.



*Above: Dr Beni with the necessary protective equipment.*



*Above: Marinela Rotariu, Hospice Executive Director.*



*Above: Medical staff equipped to visit the sick.*



*Above: Medical staff setting off on home visits.*

Since the outbreak of COVID in 2020, many people with non-COVID-related illnesses have been reluctant to go to hospital for treatment.

Publicity regarding the deadly virus has resulted in additional patients arriving at the hospice placing extra demands on staff, medicines and other resources.



*Above: Vital stock is carefully checked and listed.*

The hospice was successful in obtaining funding for more staff. Six nurses have been recruited to undergo special training to work in palliative care.

This is a valuable addition to the hospice's staff complement allowing more home visits to be made and taking some of the pressure from existing medical staff.



*Above: Medicines are carefully checked by the pharmacist.*

The hospice staff are not immune to COVID and throughout the year a number of staff have required treatment as they battled to help others in very difficult circumstances.

One of our co-workers was in hospital for a time resulting in heightened anxiety for the rest of the team.



*Above: The new staff settling in to hospice routine with some of their colleagues.*

### **PULS**

In another charity, the staff at PULS ("Pulse" in English) are dedicated to supporting single mothers and those considering terminations.

As you can imagine, mothers-to-be can be confused, afraid and anxious for the future and how to support themselves and their families.

Mothers are in constant need of basic things for themselves and their children and PULS provides clothes and toys as well as a counselling service and other assistance.

We supported them this year with clothes for boys, girls and ladies. We also supplied shoes, household goods, blankets, toys and arts and crafts items. The PULS staff have expressed their sincere thanks. They are delighted that despite restrictions of movement their ministry is being supported.



**Above: Mums are able to check sizes and select what clothes they need.**



**Above: Selections made, they're ready to go!**



**Above: One of the grateful recipients!**

### **What else do we do?**

Between the collecting, sorting and packing each year, we are always kept busy with a range of other tasks. We update this website and publish, email and post out our annual newsletter. We deliver Power Point presentations which show images of the distribution of goods and some of the recipients. We are also on hand to answer any questions which audiences may have concerning our work. We now have some engagements for 2022.

### **What next?**

We have received enquiries from donors willing to provide quality goods for next year which is a great source of encouragement. In addition, we have expanded our team and welcomed two additional members.

We have had a request to support another charity in Bihor County. Close to our other operating bases, this large charity provides homes for abandoned children.

They support children until they are 18 years of age. The young people are then supervised and helped to integrate into the community. This is a critical phase in their lives as they still need social support.

Emanuel Hospice staff collaborate with this charity and they would welcome our support.

This is an exciting opportunity for us to extend our services.

We plan to start our sorting and packing in January 2022 and we will operate in accordance with HM Government's Guidelines.

### **Comfort during Restrictions**

While the pandemic continues, many people worldwide are seeking spiritual comfort during continued isolation and uncertainty as various strains of the virus emerge. In the Bible, John Chapter 3 Verse 16 says, *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

Committing your life to God's Son, Jesus Christ will bring you peace and assurance for this life and for eternity.

### **Thank You!**

I hope you have found our 2021 report informative and helpful. For those of you who have supported us in *any* way, I should like to express a very sincere "Thank you" on behalf of my fellow-trustees. Our co-workers at Emanuel Hospice, PULS, the widows, orphans, the fatherless and the sick, poor and needy in Bihor County, Romania are *all* very grateful for your support and send their greetings and thanks.

All the support given to us is gratefully received and is essential for us to operate effectively. We never take anything or anyone for granted. The needs remain very real and often long-term for the people concerned.

If you would like to arrange a presentation for your church or other organisation, or if you would just like to know more about our work, please email me at any time.

I can be contacted at [lyongordon49@gmail.com](mailto:lyongordon49@gmail.com) which you can access here.

I hope you feel a full partner with us in this challenging but rewarding work. Thank you again.

Dr Gordon Lyon,  
Chairman of Trustees