

## Sunshine Foundation Romania Annual report 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2014

Sunshine Foundation Romania's work continues to progress because of the generosity and support of people and charities across Northern Ireland and Europe. We are sincerely grateful to everyone who has helped us in so many different ways to continue our work to improve the lives of our children and young people in Brasov County in Romania.



### 2014 Highlights

#### Horticulture project

A team of experienced gardeners from Richill installed a polytunnel and raised vegetable beds on our site in Harman. This will not only create a steady supply of fresh vegetables but more importantly, it will be a project whereby our children and young people learn to grow vegetables.



Our young people will be responsible for growing the produce that will involve daily duties which will also serve to increase their self-confidence and self-esteem. There is also potential for this project to be expanded in the future.

## Paving

Casa Sfanta Patrick has for many years had gravel to the front of the house which has proved difficult for some of the children with mobility restrictions to move freely. Thanks to a team of volunteers from School Aid Romania in Cookstown, the entire front area of the house has now been paved which has created an important outside space for all the children to enjoy.



## Volunteer accommodation

Two more bedrooms and a bathroom have been added to the accommodation at the back of our site in Harman which leaves more room for the shop to expand, unimpeded. We now have sufficient room to accommodate various sizes of groups of volunteers who all carry out important work for us.

## Supported employment

Our second hand shop, which provides supported employment and training for some of our young adults, continues to be a great success. Danuta continues to work full time in the shop and Julian and Ionut work as the porters. Andrea is currently learning the ropes in the shop and is enjoying the work.



The shop also provides an opportunity for the local community to learn more about our work and interact with our young people which is an important means for our young people to interact with others in the local community.

Viorel continues to seek employment opportunities in other businesses for our young people. Anca has had a trial in the local hairdressers and Irena and Vali in a hotel. Sometimes the placements don't lead to employment but they are important stepping stones and learning opportunities for our young people into the world of employment and to independence.

Adriana continues to work full-time in the local pizzeria, a job that she loves and a place that respects and values her.

### Supported living

Anca and Vali have settled into their new home in our supported living apartments in Casa Irlanda.



They are enjoying the semi-independence of their new home but still take time to visit their younger peers in Casa Sfanta Patrick.

While both apartments (boys and girls) spend a lot of time together socially, they each do their own cooking and cleaning so that there is a clear separation in their daily living arrangements.



### **Casa Sfanta Maria and Casa Sfanta Patrick**

All of the children in both our homes in Harman and Brasov continue to attend various schools according to ability, which they all love.



Quite a few of the children have various medical needs which sometime result in hospital stays or continued attendance with the physio or other clinics. It is the children's emotional health and wellbeing however, that can be more difficult to treat, especially as they get older. We continue to provide one-to-one

support from a psychologist to work with the children to help them deal with any emotional issues they may have.



happy to be living with their families but their families are quite poor and so we continue to provide them with food parcels and work with other charities to help them with improving their living conditions.



## Families

We continue to support have been successfully families. Dani and



our young adults who reunited with their Vasile are extremely

## Co-ordinating the

A special word of ordinator Viorel Mares



## work in Romania

thanks to our co-who works tirelessly to

ensure that the charitable work of Sunshine Foundation Romania is maintained, continued and developed.



Thanks also to the staff who work with our young people in Casa Irlanda and the shop, they are a great support to them.

### **Financial support in Romania**

Sunshine Foundation Romania's work is also greatly supported by other charities working in Brasov County in Romania. Special thanks to the continued financial support from STAR, Friends of Romania at St Louis, Ballymena and School Aid Romania including St Patrick's College, Maghera; Methodist College, Belfast; Cookstown High School and St Patrick's College, Armagh; St Patrick's High School, Keady.

Many thanks also to Helpende Handen and Onze-Lieve - Vrouwecollege from Belgium for their continued generosity and support and to the fundraising support group in Beragh.

### **Fundraising**

Sincere thanks to all of our donors for their continued support to Sunshine Foundation Romania. Many thanks also to all of the volunteers, local charities, sports clubs, churches, schools and businesses which helped to make the following fundraising activities a success:

- Jumble Sale, Beragh
- NICVA staff and friends relay team, Belfast marathon
- Golf tournament, Richill
- Memorial concert in honour of Aodh's sister and her friend who sadly passed away in June
- Bag pack in B&M, Ballymena
- St Killians school, Ballymena

### **Jumble sale, Beragh**



**B&M bag packing, Ballymena**

**Belfast City Marathon**



Quarry Lodge Golf Charity Day

### Financial scrutiny

Many thanks to Enda McLernon for carrying out the independent examination of the annual accounts. His continued support and advice is very much appreciated. Thanks also to Nodlaig for the financial analysis of the income and expenditure in Romania and the work on our gift aid claims.

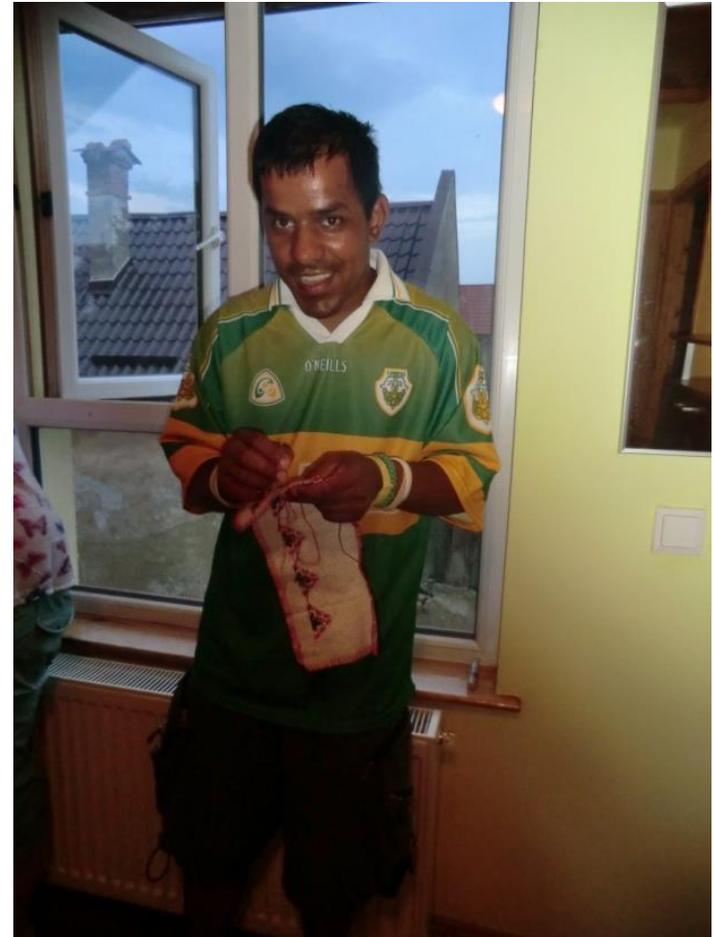
### Volunteers



Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given up their time to carry out DIY work and/or work directly with our children and young adults in Romania. Our children and young people really look forward to seeing you, spending time with you and when you're gone they remember the lovely time they enjoyed with you. On behalf of all our children and young adults – Multumesc!



Marie Williams (Chair), Maire O'Loan, Aodh O'Loan, Nodlaig Keenan (Treasurer), Mary Duffy (Assistant Treasurer), Denise Copeland (Secretary).



**Sunshine Foundation Romania Trustees**

**If you would like to help Sunshine Foundation Romania, there are several ways to do this:**

**Volunteer** – hold a fundraising activity to raise money for SFR or volunteer to work with our children and young adults in Harman.

**Standing Order** - Make a regular donation by completing a standing order form at your bank with your account details and SFR's account details which can be found on our website.

**Text Message** - Donations can be made in the following amounts; £1, £2, £3, £4, £5, £10. To donate all you have to do is text SFRM00 (followed by the amount) to 70070. If you are a taxpayer, you can make your donation go further through Gift Aid by simply replying to a text.

**On Line** -You can donate securely [online](#) via MyDonate.. To make an online donation visit our website.



If you would like more information on our charitable work please visit our website [www.sunshine-foundation.com](http://www.sunshine-foundation.com) or email [info@sunshine-foundation.com](mailto:info@sunshine-foundation.com) or contact any of our Trustees listed in our SFR Committee webpage.

